

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Does crime really pay? In Saturday tomorrow the winning entry in The Times / Veuve Clicquot Short Crime Story Competition. On the travel front: A motoring holiday in Scotland and life in the United Arab Emirates. In Values, a breakdown on how to get your possessions cleaned, dyed, and refurbished. Also included in the eight-page arts and leisure section published each Saturday with The Times are news and views of the coming week's events in the arts and the world of entertainment.

Referendum to decide on reforms

The South African Government's proposals for constitutional reform, involving three houses of parliament for whites, Coloureds and Asians, but not including Africans, were presented yesterday. The Minister for Constitutional Development expects the proposals to be passed in the current session of the white-only Parliament, but said that they would not become law until passed by a majority of white voters at a referendum.

Details, page 6

Reagan saved on freeze vote

President Reagan was saved from another setback on the nuclear front by a Republican amendment which lessened the impact of the House of Representatives resolution for a mutual freeze.

Page 6

Oil venture

BP and a consortium led by Phillips Petroleum are to develop the Andrew oil field, which has estimated reserves of 140 million barrels, 120 miles from Aberdeen.

page 15

Bank doubts

Lord Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, questioned the wisdom of allowing building societies to compete directly with banks and insurance companies.

Page 15

Khyber trip

Princess Anne completed her visit to Pakistan yesterday by travelling up the Khyber Pass close to the Afghan border.

Page 7

Irish protest

The Irish Government has formally protested to Britain about criticism about Irish unity by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence. Up roar in Dail.

page 2

Jaguar roaring

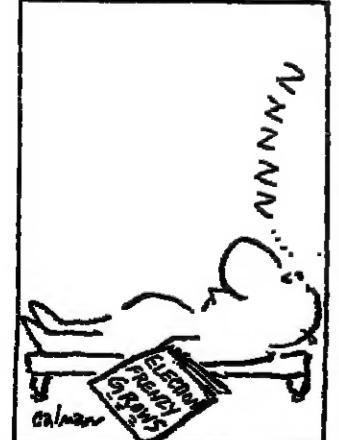
Jaguar Cars is considering the reintroduction of a night shift at its Coventry plant to cope with record sales. Production will reach an estimated 28,000 cars this year.

Page 2

A £1.9m suit

An anonymous New York collector paid £1,925,000 at Sotheby's for a suit of armour made about 1550 for King Henry II of France in a £4m sale of pieces from Hever Castle.

Back page



Leader page 11
Letters: On CND, from Dr Alex Comfort, and Mr Eric Jacobs; rates, from Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, MP, Lech Walesa, from Fr Dominic Kirkham. Leading articles: Edwin Meese's Lecture; The Tudeh Party; Two Germans.

Features, pages 8-10
Ken Livingston's pantomime cow. Election fever: a vital weekend at Chequers. Heading for a fall at the summit. Spectrum: Tuning in to our ancestors. Friday Page: A man about the house.

Obituary, page 12
Mr John Aldridge, Dr Anton Buttigieg

Tory initiative on election may be lost, MPs fear

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Conservative MPs, after a week of growing excitement at the prospect of a June general election, were by last night seriously concerned that the Prime Minister might have lost the initiative.

They believe that the assembly of senior advisers at Chequers on Sunday, and the fact that it is known, may make imperative an announcement by Mrs Margaret Thatcher early next week.

If so, and if her preference after full consideration is to go to the country in late June, then she is in danger of giving the Opposition parties six or seven weeks' notice of an election.

She has had strong advice from within the party that to give more than the four weeks' notice required by statute would particularly help the Liberals and Social Democrats, who can expect increased exposure to public view during a campaign.

It is now known that Mrs Thatcher received advice from some quarters earlier in the week to cancel the Chequers consultations so that this danger might be avoided, but she was not persuaded.

She takes the view that weekend meetings with senior ministers, which first took place regularly in the relaxed setting of Chequers during the Falklands war, and have been repeated from time to time since, are specially valuable and she does not intend to be deprived of the chance of a first detailed consideration, in the

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night she had formed none. In the Commons yesterday she showed a weary contempt as the twice-weekly probing was tried. When Mr Michael Foot asked about a newspaper report that Mr Whitelaw had revealed the date as June 9, a report since denied, Mrs Thatcher said that his question did not merit a reply.

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Diary tells of mother's death fear

Miss Beverley Brooke, who gave birth to a baby boy while she was on a life support machine in hospital, kept a diary detailing the events of the last few weeks before she died.

Miss Brooke, aged 19, died on Wednesday when doctors at Leeds General Infirmary turned off the machine 24 hours after her baby was born by caesarean section.

She describes in her diary the visiting with the baby's father, who is not named. And she talks of her expectation that she was going to die as her head pains, double vision and dizziness grew worse in the month leading to the baby's birth.

Mrs Noeline Colley, Miss Brooke's mother, who lives at Dewsbury, said: "I have found Beverley's diary, but most of the contents are private."

"She describes the events of the weeks before her death. She was in hospital several times, but she discharged herself because she was not happy with the treatment she was getting. She told me she knew she was going to die."

Mrs Colley is calling for an inquiry into the case.

London taxi fares to go up

London taxi fares will go up from May 29. Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary announced yesterday. The new tariff will incorporate a minimum fare of 60p (including a hiring charge of 40p) for the first 618 yards or two minutes 12 seconds.

The rate will then be 10p for each 509 yards or one minute six seconds up to six miles and 10p for each 210 yards, or 48 seconds, thereafter. Except for the charge for hirings after midnight which will rise from 40p to 60p, the extra charge will remain unchanged.

Dock strike is over

A seven-week strike by 2,300 dock workers at Tilbury ended yesterday with both sides in the dispute claiming victory.

The men voted to return to work saying their claim for parity with white collar workers had been met, but the Port of London Authority say it has not been conceded.

Housekeeper gives up home

Mrs Adam Penny, aged 55, the £2.50-a-week housekeeper dismissed by the Dowager Lady Radnor after seeking a pay rise, has given up her home to avoid eviction proceedings.

A tribunal had rejected Mrs Penny's claim and awarded her £45 redundancy cash. Mrs Penny and her retired bricklayer husband were due to be taken to the county court at Salisbury, Wiltshire, today by Lady Radnor.

Candidate for Livingston

Mr Robin Cook, a Labour councillor, has been selected unopposed as party candidate for the new parliamentary constituency of Livingston, a seat for which Mr Wedgwood Benn's name had been actively canvassed. (Anthony Bevins

Coal industry must abandon hopeless pits, chairman says

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Norman Siddall, chairman of the National Coal Board yesterday began a process of softening-up militant opinion among the miners, warning them that "we must pull off the hopeless pits".

Addressing the conference of the traditionally moderate Lancashire colliers, he said: "We are producing too much coal, too expensively. In saying that, I am not blaming the men working in the problem pits. Over and over again we see the skill and effort of first-class men being wasted because of the physical problems while elsewhere we are creating excellent conditions."

Since 1974-75 the industry had closed 63 pits employing about 23,000 men, but alternative jobs had been provided for about 15,000 and only 5,900 men had been made redundant.

Of these, most were voluntary and more than 90 per cent were aged 55 and over.

"But they have to be real jobs, paying for themselves in terms of coal at prices the customer will be prepared to pay: jobs based on the highest efficiency we can achieve, in other words, jobs men will feel secure in."

The coal board does not expect any improvement in the overall demand for coal over the next year, and says that the continuing economic recession had invalidated the ambitious projections of demand drawn up with the previous Labour Government.

"We are now told that four years of this mayhem is only the beginning. We have been warned. If this lot get back the mayhem of the next four years will make the past four look like a slight difference of opinion."

Jaguar sales boom may bring nightshift

By Clifford Webb

Jaguar Cars' remarkable recovery from losses of £2m a month only two years ago to record sales at home and overseas has so outstripped production that it may be forced to introduce a night shift more than planned.

The Coventry plant has not operated a nightshift for more than four years. But production has increased from 14,000 cars in 1980 to 22,000 last year and will reach an estimated 28,000 this year. A peak production of 32,000 cars was reached in the 1970s, with double-shift work and 4,000 more employees.

Mr John Egan, the chairman of Jaguar Cars, who was recently voted Midlander of the Year for restoring the fortunes of the midlands company, has always insisted that he would not make the mistake of his predecessors and increase his labour force to meet short-term sales booms.

But in the face of growing order books and lengthening delivery times it is now widely expected that he will have to act soon. The 7,200-strong work force is operating extensive overtime, including weekend work. Jaguar sales in the United States reached a record of 1,535 cars last month, an increase of 64 per cent on April, 1982, and equal to six months sales in 1980. From 3,000 that year, US

sales rose to 4,300 in 1981 and 10,300 last year. The original forecast of 12,000 for this year is being revised to more than 14,000.

European sales in the first three months of this year increased by 58 per cent, with Germany leading the field.

Jaguar admit, however, that it is starting from a very small base, with only 2,500 sales in the whole of Europe last year.

Japanese cars assembled in Australia are to go on sale in Britain today against growing protests that they are a thinly disguised method of by-passing the ceiling on Japanese sales here, which restricts their quota to 11 per cent of their UK market.

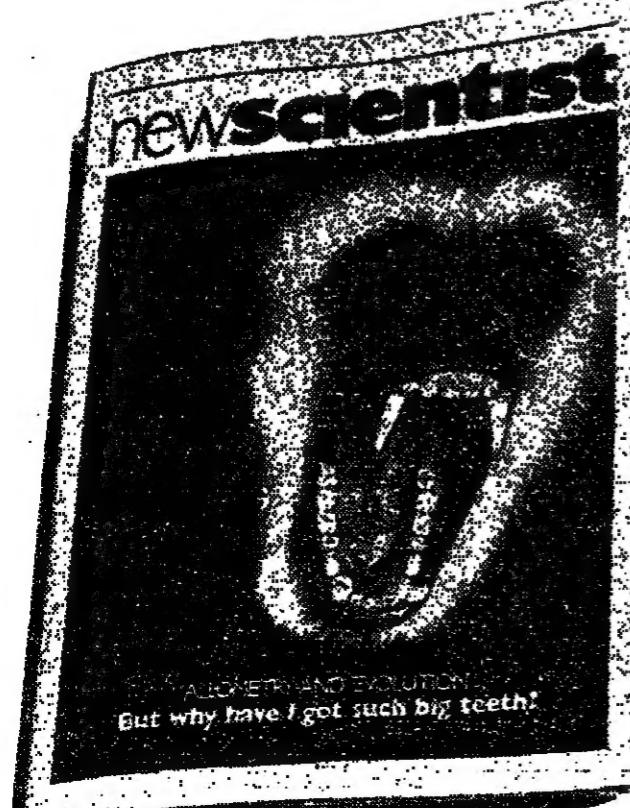
The cars, called Lonsdales, are manufactured by Mitsubishi Motors in Adelaide, South Australia, and are said to contain 85 per cent Australian-made components.

Prices range from £5,699 for a 1.6 litre saloon to £8,299 for a 2.6 litre automatic estate.

• A British Leyland subsidiary, the Aveling Barford engineering works, in Grantham, issued redundancy notices yesterday to 800 of their 1,100 workers who had refused to accept a productivity deal to save the company.

The company produces equipment for the construction industry.

"Why have I got such big teeth?"



newscientist
Every Thursday

In the past few years, Charles Darwin, the man who started modern biology, has been attacked from all sides. This week in *New Scientist* we see how monkeys, apes and deer are yet again proving that Darwin stands up better than his critics.

We also ask whether German science can survive the muddle in its universities; and preview the flat screen TV you can wear on your wrist.



Corporal David Timms, one of those injured by an IRA bomb which killed seven members of the Royal Green Jackets band in Regent's Park, London, last year, among the relatives attending a memorial tree planting yesterday. Two weeping willows were planted near the bandstand by Mrs Sandra Barker, widow of Sergeant-Major Graham Barker, and Mrs Dorothy Heritage (Photographs: Steve Bagg)

Ministers' nuclear war plea

By Nicholas Timmins

Two ministers are to address the British Medical Association's central committee for community medicine today to emphasize the need for civil defence planning in the event of nuclear war.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, who is responsible for civil defence, and Mr Geoffrey Finberg, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health, are to address the community physicians, who play a key part in the health services' planning for a nuclear war, at the invitation of their chairman, Dr Stuart Horner.

Dr Horner was a member of the BMA working party which produced a highly critical report of the Government's civil defence plans in March.

With the approval of his committee's executive, he has tabled a motion for the BMA's annual representative meeting next month urging community physicians to take no further part in such plans until the criticisms in the BMA report have been met. The full committee will be asked to approve that motion today.

The report concluded that effective planning along the lines envisaged is not possible in the face of a large attack; that an attack with a single weapon on a city would overwhelm the whole National Health Service; and that death and injuries from a 200 megaton attack would be two to two and half times greater than those estimated by the Home Office.

Meanwhile Mr Prior on his surprise visit to Dublin, which was aimed at improving Anglo-Irish relations, toured the Royal Dublin Show accompanied by Mr Peter Barry, the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Later he met Dr Fitzgerald and Mr Richard Spring, the Labour leader and deputy Prime Minister, for the first time since the Fine Gael-Labour coalition government came to power last December.

• Provisional Sinn Fein, the

Uproar in Dail over Heseltine remarks

By Richard Ford

A dispute broke out in the Dublin Parliament yesterday over the critical remarks on Irish neutrality made in Belfast on Wednesday by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, and as Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland arrived in the city for talks with government ministers.

During the rowdy exchanges in the Dail, Mr Charles Haughey, the Opposition leader, said that Mr Heseltine's remarks were "a blatant attack on Ireland's neutrality", and he urged Dr Garret Fitzgerald, the Prime Minister, to make a strong protest to Mrs Margaret Thatcher about Mr Heseltine's "unwarranted intervention".

As the upsurge continued the Speaker said he could not allow the Chair to be bullied, and the sitting was adjourned for 20 minutes.

Afterwards Mr Haughey in a statement questioned whether Dr Fitzgerald should have met Mr Prior after the "offensive remarks made about Irish neutrality". He also questioned whether he should have met Mr Prior after a refusal of a formal request by Dr Fitzgerald to meet Mrs Thatcher.

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• Mr Raymond Dornan, aged 39, a part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment, underwent emergency surgery yesterday after being seriously injured when a Provisional IRA booby-trap bomb exploded under his car.

Lords clear doctors of negligence

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Doctors who were accused of subjecting a woman to a "wholly unjustified" operation which left her with a paralysed vocal chord were unanimously cleared of negligence by the House of Lords yesterday.

Five Law Lords rejected an appeal by Mrs Blodwell Maynard, a staff nurse, against West Midlands Regional Health Authority for the operation, at East Birmingham Hospital in 1970.

She claimed that the physician and surgeon responsible were guilty of an error of professional judgment so as to constitute a breach of duty of care. Contrary to strong medical indications that she had tuberculosis, they had held back from firm diagnosis and instead performed a biopsy of glands between her lungs, she claimed.

But giving judgment, Lord Scarman said: "Differences of opinion and practice exist, and will always exist, in the medical as in other professions. There is seldom any one answer exclusive of all others to problems of professional judgment."

Lord Scarman said that it was

not enough to show that there was a body of competent professional opinion which considered that the decision by the doctors was wrong, if there was also a body of professional opinion, equally competent, which supported the decision as reasonable in the circumstances.

Nor was it enough to show that subsequent events indicated that the operation need never have been performed, if at the time of the decision to operate was taken it was reasonable in the sense that a responsible body of medical opinion would have accepted it as proper.

With Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Elwyn Jones, Lord Roskill and Lord Templeman, he supported the majority Court of Appeal finding against Mrs Maynard, then aged 41.

But Mrs Maynard, of Vibart Road, South Yardley, Birmingham, is pursuing a second claim, in which negligence has been found in her favour against Hillingdon Area Health Authority and Mr Norman Nohl-Oser, a consultant

doctors who deny raping the girl. One also denies having unlawful sexual intercourse with her. The other three all deny indecently assaulting her. A fifth soldier has admitted rape, and a sixth denies indecent and common assault.

Four paratroopers said the girl had been in bed with another soldier when a group of them burst in and started to molest her. One witness told the court: "They all gathered around the girl and started shouting 'gang-bang'."

Two of the witnesses have claimed they were threatened with violence if they told anyone about the incident. One told the court: "I did not fancy getting my face filled in." A soldier said he saw the girl sexually abused with a rolled up magazine. Another told the court: "The girl seemed to be enjoying sex with the first man, but when the others burst in all she wanted to do was get out of the place."

Before the court are four

IBA talks on Equity dispute

By Kenneth Gedling

Mr John Whitney, the director-general of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), has invited the two sides involved in the dispute over television advertising to informal talks at the authority's London headquarters on Wednesday.

Neither Mr Peter Plourier, the general secretary of Equity, the actors' union, nor Mr David Wheeler, the director of the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, who have both accepted the invitation, knows what may be proposed.

However, in March the IBA suggested an independent commission of inquiry, which was accepted by the IBA but rejected by Equity.

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Wife 'murdered and buried in river bank'

A devoted mother who vanished in 1973 was murdered by her husband on their eleventh wedding anniversary, Newcastle magistrates were told yesterday.

Mrs Ann Law's husband Gilbert Law, aged 46, a marine engineer, from Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, appeared before a committal hearing charged with murdering his wife, aged 35, on March 24, 1973; two weeks before their divorce was due to be made absolute. Mr Robert Taylor, for the prosecution said.

Reporting restrictions were lifted at an earlier hearing.

Last November Mr Law admitted strangling his wife and burying her at a River Tyne picnic spot near Stocksfield, coarsely said.

No trace of Mrs Law had been found, despite extensive digging along the river banks.

The last known person to see her alive was the defendant, who claimed at the time that his wife had left home at about 9.30pm without saying where she was going.

Mr Law later told detectives that he had buried his wife after she died from the effects of drink and drugs, the court was

reached.

After that he told police he was receiving messages from his television set the night she disappeared. "I was like a zombie - I heard this voice. It just said 'kill Ann'. I just started to strangle her."

Science report

How wild horses can cause abortions

By the Staff of *Nature*

When a wild stallion wins control of a harem from a rival, one dramatic consequence is that most of the pregnant members of the harem abort their foetuses. So concludes Dr Joel Berger, of the Smithsonian Institution, Front Royal, Virginia, who has been studying some of the 40,000 wild horses of the Great Basin Desert of North America.

Dr Berger selected a group of 129 horses confined to the Granite Range mountains in Nevada, and has watched them for 7,000 hours over the last four years, long enough to be able to claim to know the ages of 90 per cent of the horses.

He found that in harems dominated by a single male throughout the 11 month period of gestation 82 per cent of pregnancies ended with live births. But in unstable harems, where a second or even third stallion had taken control, there were less than half as many successful pregnancies. Closer study, correcting for age (older mares being less successful at bearing viable foals), showed a 90 per cent abortion rate for mares in their first six months of pregnancy if their harem was conquered by a new stallion.

Dr Berger observed that harem takeovers are characterized by copulations between its members and the new male, but only after he has continually and aggressively bitten and chased them. This amounts to forced copulation, compared to the usual friendly course of events. Presumably forced copulation plays some part in inducing abortions, but since several abortions were also observed in the absence of forced copulation, general stress must also be a cause.

The presumed advantage to the new stallion of his actions is that it enables him to propagate his own genes, not those of a rival. In doing so the horse has at least settled for a slightly more "ethical" method than that of infanticide which is used for similar purposes by some other wild animals, including lions.

Source: *Nature* 5 May 1983 vol 303 p 59

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New Comet approaching the Earth

By Our Science Editor

The discovery of a new comet was announced last night to a meeting in London of the Royal Society. It has been named the IRAS-Akari-Alcock, after the names of those who, within days of each other, have confirmed its existence.

The object is approaching the Earth, and should be visible, certainly with good binoculars, near the Pl

Parachutist injured in saving Red Devils colleague from crashing

By Craig Seton

A leading member of the Red Devils parachute team was in hospital with a broken back yesterday after he saved a colleague from plummeting 1,000ft to his death when a spectacular mid-air manoeuvre went wrong.

Sergeant-major Kenneth Yeoman, aged 37, of The Parachute Regiment, caught hold of Corporal Kenneth Campbell, aged 25, when his colleague's parachute collapsed, and held on even when his own canopy partially folded, and the two hit the ground.

Sergeant-major Yeoman landed on his spine. He was rushed to Truro hospital, where he underwent emergency surgery. He was said yesterday to be partially paralysed in his legs.

Corporal Campbell managed a correct parachute landing and suffered only severe bruising and shock.

The accident happened on Wednesday night over RAF St Mawgan in Cornwall, where nine members of the Red Devils were practising a jump from 10,000ft from an Islander aircraft.

Captain Michael Munn, the team leader, who witnessed it

from the ground, said: "If it had not been for Sergeant-major Yeoman's cool head throughout it could have been even worse for Corporal Campbell than it was for him."

He said the two had dropped 7,000ft, most of it before

opening their parachutes, when they started a manoeuvre called canopy 'relative work'.

This involves the two men linking their straps so that Sergeant-major Yeoman would be positioned immediately above his colleague, giving the appearance that he was standing on his shoulders.

Then the corporal's parachute collapsed. Captain Munn said: "They were still more than 1,000ft up and Corporal Campbell may well have fallen from there. The Sergeant-major made sure that the corporal was secure, and it looked as if both men would get down on the one parachute, certainly to a hard landing but reasonably safely."

The second parachute then partially collapsed. Captain Munn said: "It still had some lift, but the two men came down the last 80ft at 60 degrees and very fast. It was obvious right away that the Sergeant-major was badly hurt."

Sergeant-major Yeoman's wife visited him yesterday. He has three children and lives in married quarters at Aldershot. He has been with the Red Devils for four years and was to lead the team in a display in Berlin this month.

Sergeant-major Yeoman held colleague when parachute collapsed.

Solicitors liable for crash damages

By Francis Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A firm of solicitors which failed to lodge a claim for compensation in time after a woman's show jumper was injured in a car accident in Hialeah for the heavy damages to which she is entitled, the House of Lords held yesterday.

Five Law Lords unanimously ruled that the solicitors must be held liable for the loss of a six-figure claim by Miss Lorna Deerness, aged 25, of Baldock, Hertfordshire, after she was rendered a paraplegic in an accident.

They upheld a Court of Appeal ruling last October that Miss Deerness could not proceed against the insurance company of the defendants because a clerk in A. E. Hamlin and Co, the firm of solicitors then handling the claim, omitted to serve a writ within the specified time.

Giving judgment, Lord Diplock said: "What this appeal is really about is a squabble between the solicitors' insurers and Cornhill (Insurance Company) as to which of them will have to pay the heavy damages to which the plaintiff is undoubtedly entitled".

The final amount has yet to be agreed.

Law Report, page 19

Glazier says he trapped Soviet spies

By Richard Evans

A double-glazing salesman claimed yesterday that it was he who helped to uncover the biggest haul of Russian spies for a decade while working in the Soviet Trade delegation in Highgate, north London.

Mr William Graham, aged 45, said he pinpointed up to thirty Russians in the Highgate complex involved in subversive activity, and reported his findings to British intelligence.

He said that his work as a MI6 "mole" resulted in the expulsion of three Russians for spying activities, and predicted further expulsions.

In an interview with *The Standard*, the London evening newspaper, Mr Graham said he infiltrated the complex over an 18-month period after a chance offer to reglaze the buildings in the trade delegation in late 1979.

Mr Graham claimed that his work led to the expulsion of three spies, Mr Viktor Lazine in 1981, Mr Anatoli Zotov last December, and Mr Vladimir Chernov earlier this year.

In addition, he said, he uncovered a spy, code-named Charles, who had been operating in Britain for two years unknown to British security services.

He bugged the trade delegation for MI6 with a transmitting device about the size of a 10p piece, and also helped to get in touch with a Russian who was subsequently compromised by intelligence to work for Britain when he returned to Moscow.

Mr Graham, a former police informant, said he agreed to work for MI6 "because I am loyal to my country".

The work began when he became friendly with a man he met in the Queen's Head public house in Crouch End, north London. The stranger turned out to be a member of the Soviet trade delegation, who said there would be some double glazing work at the Highgate premises.

Mr Graham's firm, formerly Palace Installations of Hornsey, which is now in liquidation, was awarded the £46,000 contract.

He got in touch with his Special Branch contact before being introduced to an MI6 controller. Mr Graham said he was given a code name, a special telephone number to ring and a flat to go to in case of trouble. It was there that he was debriefed three or four times a week after starting the job in January 1980.

He claimed that a bugging device planted under the lectern in the delegation concert hall had helped to expose Mr Lazine, a second secretary at the Russian Embassy, who was expelled for attempting to recruit civil servants in government departments.

Mrs Sheila Carville, widow of one of the men McClinton shot dead six years ago, said last night he was "pulling the wool over people's eyes" about his "born again Christian" claims.

RUC widow to marry double killer

By Richard Ford

The widow of a Royal Ulster Constabulary inspector murdered by the provisional IRA, is to marry a convicted double killer described by a judge as a "cold blooded and completely ruthless assassin".

Mrs Florence Cobb, aged 42, a mother of three, has become engaged to Kenneth McClinton, aged 36, a former member of the Ulster Defence Association. He has become a "born again Christian" while serving a life sentence in the Maze high-security prison, near Belfast.

The couple plan to marry when McClinton, from the Shankill Road area of Belfast, completes his sentence in 1999, unless as Mrs Cobb says, "the Lord opens the prison gates sooner".

The couple first met after she appeared on a television programme and McClinton, wrote to her saying he had become a "born again Christian". After several letters, she went to visit the man jailed in 1979 for the murder of a Roman Catholic and a Protestant.

Mrs Cobb, from Hillsborough, county Down, had earlier written to the man convicted of murdering her husband at security barriers in Lurgan, county Armagh, in 1977, giving him.

A "born again Christian" herself, Mrs Cobb said she believed McClinton was a true sincere believer. Their relationship had developed since she "born again Christian" claims.

Better homes bring fewer complaints

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

Britain's house builders are constructing better homes, of a higher standard, than they were 10 years ago. Since 1973 there has been a remarkable decline in the number of complaints about important structural defects in new homes.

An independent study by Duncan Fraser, a firm of actuaries, shows that the number of serious defects in newly built private houses has been significantly reduced since 1973, when almost 10,000 claims under the National Housebuilders' Council certificate scheme were received. Last year claims had fallen to 4,500.

Under the scheme, which guarantees the main structure of a home for 10 years, a total of £6m was paid out last year

for genuine complaints. Although no strictly comparable figure is available for 1973, £12m has been paid on claims arising on homes built between 1971 and 1973.

Most of the awards made last year relate to structural defects in homes built before 1974 and cover houses and flats which were constructed during the 1970-73 boom.

The council said yesterday that claims totalling only £4m had been met on homes built since 1975, although that generation of houses will continue to be at risk until early into the next decade.

Present certificate schemes run for the first 10 years of the life of a house but do not come into operation until a house has been bought. During the aftermath of the property collapse in the mid-1970s

the average size of a claim settled last year was £3,300. Most complaints were in two areas, roofing and badly laid foundations. They cost almost £2m, half the total claims, to put right.

But it is the report from the actuaries that indicates the general improvement in building standards over the past 10 years. It states that the number of big structural problems occurring after seven years is down by half.

Given a new lease of life by a change of heart

By Our Science Editor

Mr Paul Coffey, aged 27, received his new heart on February 26, 1980. Before the operation he could scarcely sit up in bed; last Saturday he was playing his regular game of football.

He said yesterday: "I feel almost fitter than before I was taken ill, but that is probably because I am aware of the need to keep in trim. And that means sticking to a sensible diet and only an occasional drink."

The illness that nearly killed him, Mr Coffey now regards as only an interruption. But he believes he had an advantage because his wife was a nursing sister and so understood what was involved medically and psychologically. Mr Coffey, who was a charge nurse before the transplant, is now a clinical teacher in psychiatry at New Cross Hospital and is studying for higher examinations later this year.

Yet four years ago it was the severest exertion to walk 25 yards. Today he cycles and plays cricket, and squash racquets as well as football.

The deterioration that led to the need for a new heart was quite rapid. It began the previous summer with a violent attack of stomach pain. That was followed by a general debility, which resembled a severe bout of influenza. At first doctors suspected he had one of the exhausting systemic infections, such as glandular fever.

He was soon unable to walk a few hundred yards. A specialist in Birmingham diagnosed cardiac myopathy, a degeneration of the heart muscles, which was confirmed by Mr Terence English after Mr Coffey was referred to Papworth. The only remedy the doctors could offer was a transplant. Within five weeks he received a new heart.

Mr Susan Coffey said: "Looking back on it, we did not seem to have time to be frightened. But more than anything else, the confidence of the staff at Papworth never gave us any feeling of doubt that it would not work, and confidence that Paul would be back to work."

Mr Coffey said: "The people at work have been a great help, because they accepted me back instantly as Paul Coffey and not some oddity."

The main difference between now and before the heart condition is that I take a regular medication each day. But I take the necessary tablets as automatically as brushing my teeth. Every three months I have to attend a routine out-patients clinic; that takes only a matter of minutes. Once a year I check into Papworth for a full overhaul."



Transplant programmes face uncertain future

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Surgeons at Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, have carried out the fifth heart transplant since the programme began in January 1979.

The recipient was a former Post Office employee, aged 40, of Keighley, West Yorkshire.

His operation, which started on Wednesday night and ended in the early hours of yesterday, was the 101st in Britain.

A hospital official said: "The operation went smoothly and his new heart is working well. The patient is a married man with a family, but the hospital is not releasing his name at the request of his relatives."

If the transplant work which started in 1978 but soon stopped in a glare of bad publicity is included, then rather more than 101 heart replacements have been carried out in Britain. That number includes the "piggy-back" operations conducted by Mr Magdi Yacoub's team at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex, in which a donor heart is linked in parallel with a failing heart.

If the transplant work which started in 1978 but soon stopped in a glare of bad publicity is included, then rather more than 101 heart replacements have been carried out in Britain. That number includes the "piggy-back" operations conducted by Mr Magdi Yacoub's team at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex, in which a donor heart is linked in parallel with a failing heart.

Furthermore, once past that hurdle, the five-year survival rate is expected to be 90 per cent. The longest surviving heart transplant patient is M. Emmanuel Vitra, of Marseilles, a former wine salesman, now aged 61, who celebrated the fourteenth anniversary of his new heart at the end of last year.

By last summer, more than 750 heart transplants had been done in 74 countries. The greatest number have been



performed by a team working with Professor Norman Shoumway at Stanford University, California.

His achievements are better than those anywhere else. At the last meeting of the International Transplantation Society he reported on 254 transplants since 1968; of those, 87 were alive, the longest for twelve and a half years.

Research continues for still more effective ways of combating rejection. Nevertheless, a shadow hangs over progress in science and medicine, lack of money.

A heart replacement costs about £20,000 for the surgery and post-operative care. The number of people in Britain who could benefit from a transplant and be returned to active life is about fifty a year.

Aspinall is granted club licence

By John Aspinall was granted a gaming licence yesterday for the Curzon House Club, in Mayfair, London, after a three-day hearing by South Westminster Licensing Justices.

The work began when he met the man he met in the Queen's Head public house in Crouch End, north London. The stranger turned out to be a member of the Soviet trade delegation, who said there would be some double glazing work at the Highgate premises.

Mr Aspinall, aged 56, of Lyall Street, Belgravia, bought the club from the company. Five earlier applications failed because it was felt there were sufficient casinos in London.

Mr Aspinall agreed yesterday not to allow gambling at his other club, Aspinall's, in Knightsbridge, a small, exclusive casino for high-rolling gamblers, when the new club, to be called Aspinall Curzon, opens in eight months after renovations.

He also owns Howlets Zoo Park, near Canterbury, which he told the court was losing

£100,000 a year.

He claimed that a bugging device planted under the lectern in the delegation concert hall had helped to expose Mr Lazine, a second secretary at the Russian Embassy, who was expelled for attempting to recruit civil servants in government departments.

Mrs Sheila Carville, widow of one of the men McClinton shot dead six years ago, said last night he was "pulling the wool over people's eyes" about his "born again Christian" claims.

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Industrial action threat to Government's law and order policies

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government faces moves this month to disrupt its law and order policies by industrial action that could seriously embarrass it, especially if there is a general election in June.

The National Association of Probation Officers (Napo) is calling on its members to refuse to recommend, supervise, or cooperate with two key provisions of the Criminal Justice Act, which is due to come into effect on May 24.

Further, prison officers at their annual conference later this month will be debating unilateral action to cut the prison population. The debate comes after a resolution at their conference two years ago to the effect that if by now the Government had not done enough to reduce overcrowding, the prison officers would do what was needed.

If they decide to act, the population would be reduced to the certified normal accommodation figure, the number of prisons are officially supposed to hold.

Officers estimate that if a motion before the conference is passed the prison population will fall by about 5,500.

An official of the Prison Officers' Association said that last time the officers took action, in 1980, the Government introduced an emergency powers Act, opened two camps, and brought in troops to help with perimeter guard duties. The prison population is now 44,407, and 374 in police cells.

Canterbury Prison staff, who moved the original resolution, have a motion this month which says that because the Government has not tried hard to reduce the over-crowding in

prisons the association should adopt a policy of keeping to the certified normal accommodation figure in all establishments from June 6.

The branch moved that the policy should remain in force until otherwise determined by a special delegate conference.

The effect would be to add immediately to the number of prisoners held in police cells not built for the purpose and to bring pressure to bear on Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, to take emergency executive action to release some non-dangerous prisoners.

Mr Whitelaw is reluctant to take such action, as he made plain in his article in *The Times* yesterday. The article is seen by officers as implying that there is no need for further drastic action by them or anyone else because of the effort the Government is making to cut the prison population.

However, Mr Whitelaw's optimism conflicts with the opinion of Sir James Hennessy, his Chief Inspector of Prisons. He said in his annual report that prison overcrowding, which was already at a crisis point, was likely to worsen with the population reaching almost 50,000 by the end of the decade.

Five thousand new places are to be provided, but the pressure on the system is unlikely to ease, because some cells will go to make room for integral sanitation and others will be imposed", Mr Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of Napo, said.

If the prison officers do not mean that an offender can be told not to do something, for example visit a public house. The probation officer's job then is to ensure that he or she complies.

Members have been urged to try to reach agreement with their chiefs to try to avoid any conflict with courts.

There is already evidence that one part of the Act is not being used. "Since the adult provisions of the Act came into force in January no Napo member has recommended a negative requirement and a fundamental change in the officer's role.

The negative requirements mean that an offender can be told not to do something, for example visit a public house. The probation officer's job then is to ensure that he or she complies.



Bridge on the River Foyle: About 200 yards of dual carriageway bridge section taking to the site in Northern Ireland. The length of the bridge changes by an eighth of an inch for every degree C shift between rain and shine. (Photograph: John Dadson)

Labour in the Rhondda

Candidate for a lifetime

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

By tonight the clutch of solicitors, union officials and councillors bidding for the safest job in British politics will have been whittled down to a manageable number and, at most, only six prospective candidates will remain from whom the next Labour MP for the Rhondda will be chosen.

Barring a major scandal or a conversion of Lazarus-like proportions among the electorate, the successful man or woman will remain in Parliament for the rest of his or her working life, for the party enjoys in the valley a majority of 31,141.

Because of fears that Plaid Cymru would move the writ for the by-election, caused by the death of the former member, Mr Alec Jones, the original leisurely timetable was cut back after pressure from London and the final decision on the date will now be taken next week.

More than forty people wrote expressing their desire to stand but it is expected that by the time the nominations close today, only 12 will have succeeded in obtaining the necessary nominations.

Several leading Labour

MPs, still searching for seats because the reorganization of constituency boundaries, have cast envious glances towards the valley but they are barred by convention from bidding.

Mr Harry Stonehouse, secretary of the Rhondda Constituency Labour Party, has admitted there is a preference in the valley for a local person to be chosen "although naturally we want the best candidate for the job."

Nevertheless, it appears likely that after the executive committee draws up a short list tonight, the only outsider still in the running will be Mr George Galloway, former chairman of the Labour Party in Scotland and now a full-time organizer in Dundee.

His two likeliest opponents will be two European MPs, Miss Ann Clwyd (Mid and West Wales) and the local man and favourite, Mr Allen Rogers (South East Wales).

Mr Rogers, an anti-marketeer and former vice-president of the European Parliament, said: "I feel I can represent the views of the Rhondda because I live in the valleys and come from a coalmining family."

Mr Galloway said: "The

fact that I am a Scot presents no problems. There are examples of people who have done the same thing." In fact one of them, Keir Hardy, became the first Labour MP when he won Merthyr and his secretary was Mr Stonehouse's grandfather.

Wiseley, Mr Galloway says he is in favour of devolution in Scotland but not for Wales.

Only twice, in 1945 when the Communists failed by 972 votes to capture the seat and in 1967 when Plaid Cymru fell short by 3,000 votes, has the unbroken Labour lineage been remotely challenged.

The prospective Conservative candidate, Mr Peter Meyer, a knowledgeable and experienced county councillor, will not be disheartened by the inevitability of defeat. In 1959 Mr Francis Pym was soundly thrashed there.

Rhondda contradicts Conservative ethos, which declares that home ownership is a factor in its favour, for most of the 76 per cent owner occupiers in the valley fall into the 17.7 per cent who live in council houses and routinely relet the party.

Satellite TV group considers share offers

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

The board of Satellite Television is to meet today to decide on the offers for a majority shareholding in the group.

News International, owners of *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The News of the World* and *The Sun*, has made a bid for the shareholding but is in competition with another bidder, believed to be an electronic group.

The satellite service has been operating since 1981 using the European Orbital Test-Satellite.

The station has more than 400,000 viewers in Norway, Finland and Switzerland. From the summer, the station will be transmitted on the new European Communications Satellite which will be able to be received in Britain.

The project has cost the shareholders about £4m, so far, but a further £10m is needed

March for jobs gets into its stride

By Ronald Faux

The People's March for Jobs was in full stride yesterday, gaining momentum as it moved south through the Lake District.

The 70 marchers in bright yellow sweatshirts and waterproofs, banners waving in the wind, had already crossed Stain, which offers some of the highest and bleakest ground between Glasgow and London, and had just passed through Whitewell land, answering Conservative territory dotted with comfortable farms and prosperous-looking country towns.

"Some people looked at us as though we had just stepped down from Mars, but generally folk understand", a young marcher, who is a redundant factory manager and former shop steward, said.

A morgue technician, who had taken five weeks unpaid leave to join the march, said the police had been helpful and sympathetic, escorting the marchers on the daily 15-mile legs of the protest.

They know exactly what the relationship is between unemployment and crime, and that with more work there would be less crime and violence for them to deal with, less for the extremists of any kind to promote themselves with", he said.

The march had been kept to a token number because of costs and logistics problems. It will swell from a number of smaller marches coming from elsewhere in the North-west, and from west Cumbria, Yorkshire, Liverpool, Newcastle and the West Country.

It is planning to sweep into Trafalgar Square on June 5 for "the biggest protest demonstration against unemployment the country has ever seen".

There are no pinched faces or rank signs of distress among these latter-day Jarrow men and women. But the distress and deprivation these marchers complain about has a depressing edge.

Sophie Young, aged 22, from Glasgow, graduated at Aberdeen University a year ago with an MA in arts and social sciences, and has found only two jobs since: as a part-time waitress and as a barmaid.

"It is very depressing to be told 50 times: 'Sorry but we have had 500 people or 200 graduates applying for this job'. This march is really the first constructive thing I have been able to do. It is comradeship, encouragement and knowing that you are not alone", she said.

The marchers insist that their blisters and sore legs are not being suffered for a political cause. They resent the left-wing activists who are apt to arrive ahead of the march distributing revolutionary literature.

Mr Alan Millington, chief marshal, insisted: "We are not extremists, we just believe there must be another way to run the country than inflicting this on so many people."

Environment policy plea to Britain

By David Nicholson-Lord

Leaders of the European conservation movement are to make a final appeal to Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for the Environment, over Britain's blocking of a measure regarded as crucial to the development of a coherent EEC environment policy.

Mrs Margaret Sweeney, the Irish president of the European Environmental Bureau, is writing to Mr King asking him to abandon British resistance to the proposed directive on environmental impact assessment in time for next month's meeting of the EEC Council of Ministers. If he refuses, conservationists believe the directive may be lost.

The bureau is the main pan-European grouping of conservationists, representing more than 60 bodies in the 10 member states. Mr Robin Grove-White, its UK representative and director of the Council for the protection of Rural England, described the directive yesterday as "immensely important" and said the finger would point at Britain if it was dropped.

The first big "crunch" in the Fact campaign will come in a fortnight when thousands of illegal cassettes will be crushed at a depot in Tottenham, north London.

The campaign itself will continue - aided, its leaders hope, by the speedy enactment into law of the Copyright Amendment Bill, promised a rapid passage through its remaining stages.

Recorders dearer

By a Staff Reporter

although it is pointed out that it has not been widely understood that the figure of 4,550,000 is not a fixed quota.

The Japanese quota will probably come down to 3,500,000 and European manufacturers cannot make up the shortfall.

In the five or so years since video recorders started to appear the price has dropped from £700-£800 to machines offering better facilities for less than £300.

Under the terms of the agreement Philips and Grundig are able to take advantage of a guarantee additional 1,200,000 allocation for locally produced machines. But a severe shortage of machines is being predicted.

Union leader eases fears over finances

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Mr Clive Jenkins's 400,000-strong white-collar section, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS), has moved to head off possible controversy over its finances.

Mr Jenkins, the general secretary, said yesterday the union's position had improved "quite dramatically" and that in any case its problems had been grossly exaggerated.

Several motions severely critical of the financial performance of ASTMS have been dropped from the final agenda of the union's annual conference, which starts in Bournemouth tomorrow.

National officers said that an internal investigation of the situation had satisfied the committee setting out the order of business of the conference and that it was decided there were more important issues to be debated.

Mr Jenkins said that a combined deficit on capital and current account of £875,000 in 1981 had been reduced to a deficiency of £50,000.

There was also an increase in the central political and general fund, from £7,955,000 to £9,340,000. Current and capital expenditure had decreased marginally to £7,320,000. Total net assets rose from £2.2m to £2.6m.

The union has already signed up the Guinness staff association in Dublin.

Bookies' dispute for High Court

By Rupert Morris

A dispute among bookmakers is to be resolved in the High Court today. At issue is the chairmanship of the levy board's bookmakers' committee, which helps to decide the annual rate of levy.

The Betting Office Licensees' Association (BOLA), which represents High Street betting shops, objects to the chairmanship of Mr Alf Bruce, from the National Association of Bookmakers (NAB), which represents predominantly on-course bookmakers.

That view is supported by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, who reconstituted the bookmakers' committee from last December to give the bodies equal representation. NAB had previously commanded a permanent majority on the committee.

BOLA has long argued that NAB should not have the main say in how the levy is fixed, since only off-course bookmakers (BOLA members) pay the levy - equivalent to 1.1 per cent of their turnover, and expected to raise £19m in this financial year.

But NAB has received legal advice that it may still be entitled to have Mr Bruce, with his vital casting vote, as chairman.

Ripper denial

Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, was not exonerated by Father Anthony Lowne while he was in Leeds prison awaiting trial, as stated in a newspaper, a Home Office minister said in a Commons written reply

of the police and trading standards officers, is paying off - but at a price.

The operation is costing £750,000 a year, with contributions from film industry organizations ranging from £10,000 to £64,000. The founder members of Fact were the British Video Games Association, the Motion Picture Association of America Incorporated and the Society of Film Distributors.

Mr Robert Birch, Fact's director-general, is another Yard man - formerly the Metropolitan Police solicitor - and his deputy, Mr William McCruie, was the senior principal legal executive at the Yard. Mr Duffy once headed the anti-terrorist squad and worked in the murder squad and against company fraud.

Several gangs have already been broken and a number of cases are pending. In one copying centre equipment worth £250,000 was found.

Mr Birch said the change in law increasing penalties for piracy and sale would switch the emphasis from lengthy and expensive civil proceedings to the criminal courts.

And those who handle the illegal cassettes will think again before risking prison sentences. "The fact is that you cannot have thieves without receivers and the dealers must realize this."

"These", he said, "are worth more than the Bank of England plates for £20 notes".

Tracking down the pirates, using a network of private investigators and with the help

I was shown a pirated copy



Peter Duffy: "People making big money".

of The *Missionary* with a very distorted and "stretched" image.

Mr Duffy said: "The man in the street will say there is no harm in a little bit of copying - it is known as time-shift. But people are making big money out of paying a few hundred pounds to a projectorist for a few hours."

"The sad thing is people in Hollywood still say it is not policy to issue films in cassette form. Talk about putting your head in the sand."

Mr Duffy was recently appointed head of investigations for the new Federation Against Copyright Theft (FACT) and already has an efficient operations room set up in its offices in London's West End.

In another room are piled boxes and boxes of pirate videos, familiar names like *Gandhi* and *Tootie* among them.

The society accepts improvements can and have been made. Some solicitors, it says, would like to see advertising allowed by individual firms. "This is a change which does cause us concern, because however, of the public interest we have taken some small steps in that direction."

These include estimate forms for conveying charges which clients can ask solicitors to fill in. Clients are encouraged to shop around. Solicitors, it says, can be cheaper than non-qualified conveyancers.

As a matter of policy it would not issue any video of its films. "But every feature film since we started last October has been copied, many of them very badly".

I was shown a pirated copy

just the tip of the iceberg.

There were two aspects to the problem: organized crime using dishonest methods to obtain a film, putting it on market tapes and flooding the market; and "back to back" copying, involving a dealer employing two machines - and a "bit of wire from Exchange and Mart".

The supply of blank tapes is also being studied. "We want information about

Tactical victory for Republicans on nuclear freeze vote

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

After 53 hours of contentious debate spread over the past two months, the House of Representatives finally passed a resolution late on Wednesday night calling for a "mutual and verifiable freeze and reductions in nuclear weapons" by the United States and the Soviet Union. The vote was 278 to 149.

However, the political impact of this resolution was considerably reduced by a Republican amendment, approved earlier in the evening, that would revoke the freeze if it was not followed by "negotiated arms reductions" within a reasonable, specified period of time.

The amendment represented a considerable tactical victory for the Republicans, as it saved President Reagan from suffering yet another setback on the freeze issue. A day earlier, America's Roman Catholic bishops had voted overwhelmingly to endorse a pastoral letter calling for a halt to the testing, production and deployment of new nuclear weapons.

Mr Robert Michel, the House Republican leader, described the amendment as "a Victory unthinkable only weeks ago". Mr Elliott Levitas, a Democrat who backed the amendment, said: "There must be reductions, or else the freeze thaws."

The freeze resolution is non-binding and is regarded as a symbolic expression of the rapidly-growing grass-roots campaign against the nuclear arms race. This anti-nuclear sentiment was eloquently expressed in the Roman Catholic bishop's 150-page letter, entitled: *The Challenge of Peace: God's promise and our response*.

The freeze resolution now goes to the Republican-controlled Senate, where its fate is uncertain. Mr Reagan has said

he will veto the measure if it reaches the White House.

The Administration had lobbied strongly against the freeze because it maintains, it would leave the Soviet Union in a position of nuclear superiority and would weaken the hand of American negotiators at the two sets of missile talks in Geneva.

Despite the watering down of the final version of the resolution, supporters in the House of the freeze seemed pleased with the outcome, dismissing the amendment as a "nuisance at best". Mr Thomas (Tip) O'Neill, the House Speaker, described the resolution as a "unique instance in the history of arms control," adding that it was a message from the American people to recognize that "the onrushing train of nuclear weapons must be stopped".

Congressmen confirmed that both the bishop's letter and the latest proposal for nuclear arms reductions by Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, had had an impact on the vote.

The Administration's reaction to the pastoral letter has been deliberately low-key, even though it represents a direct challenge to the Administration's nuclear policies.

Mr Reagan said he had little quarrel with the letter, the full text of which he had not yet seen. "It really is a legitimate effort to do exactly what we are doing, and that is to try and find ways towards world peace."

● LONDON: Mr Reagan's recent decision to spend more money on developing anti-ballistic missile systems could only benefit Nato, according to one of his closest White House aides, Henry Stanhope writes.

Mr Edwin Meese admitted to the Cambridge University Union that it was too early to predict the results. But the idea

Leading article, page 11

Crucial day for Shultz shuttle

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The personal reputation of Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, as well as the standing of American foreign policy in the Middle East hangs on the outcome of an emergency session of the Israeli coalition Cabinet due to begin this morning.

The meeting has been convened by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, to decide Israel's reaction to the lengthy draft agreement between Israel and Lebanon which Mr Shultz has hammered out during his hectic maiden shuttle mission to the region.

It is generally recognized that there can be no chance of America's pressing forward with plans for a wider Middle East framework until all foreign armies can be persuaded to leave Lebanese soil.

Despite official American optimism that the agreement will be clinched by the time Mr Shultz leaves for Damascus tomorrow for the more difficult second leg of his trip to secure Syrian acquiescence, Israeli officials maintained the suspense throughout yesterday with a lengthy series of meetings designed to secure "clarification".

By last night, it became clear that one of the central issues on which the Cabinet will have to decide is the role of the Israeli-backed Lebanese militia leader, Major Saad Haddad. There were indications that ministers would be asked to change their original demand that he be appointed overall military commander of southern Lebanon.

There were predictions that the Cabinet session may include an attempt by Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister and chief architect of the Lebanon war, to ensure that Israel does not agree to concessions in the security field. He is likely to be outvoted by supporters of his successor, Mr Moshe Arens.

It is understood that two of the key issues, the role of Major Haddad and the future of United Nations forces in southern Lebanon, will be covered in separate letters of understanding, rather than the main body of the agreement.

While the last-minute talks continued, the Israeli Government again emphasized that the non-negotiable conditions of pulling its army out of Lebanon remained: 1) the prior evacuation of the estimated 7,000 Palestinian fighters; 2) the simultaneous withdrawal of all Syrian troops; 3) the safe return of all Israeli prisoners of war.

The election of Mr Herzog, who was born in Belfast and is the son of a former Chief Rabbi of Ireland, provided a serious political setback to the ruling coalition of Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, whose own little-known candidate was beaten in a Knesset vote.

The church leadership is trying to avert a situation similar to that which occurred last December when martial law was suspended but simultaneously the penal code was tightened.

New President sworn in

Mr Chaim Herzog, the popular former Labour Party politician, journalist and ex-head of military intelligence, who was formally sworn in as the sixth President of Israel in the Knesset last night. He succeeds Mr Yitzhak Navon, who has yet to take a final decision whether he will return to Poland next month.

The election of Mr Herzog, who was born in Belfast and is the son of a former Chief Rabbi of Ireland, provided a serious political setback to the ruling coalition of Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, whose own little-known candidate was beaten in a Knesset vote.

Mr Herzog, who is 64, has pledged to try to heal the divisions in Israeli society.

Pretoria unveils long-awaited reforms

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African Government yesterday unveiled its long-awaited constitutional reforms, which if put into effect would give the country its first multi-racial parliament, but keep ultimate control in white hands through the office of a new and powerful executive presidency.

The reforms, entitled the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Bill 1983, were placed before Parliament by Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Development, and immediately opposed by the far-right Conservative Party, which broke away from the ruling National Party last year.

The liberal Progressive Federal Party which considers the reforms grossly inadequate because they exclude black Africans, said it would not oppose the Bill at this stage. The first major test of white reaction will come next week in four crucial by-elections in the Transvaal.

The Bill provides for a new

parliament divided into three houses, one each for the country's 4.6 million whites, 2.7 million mixed-blood, Coloured and 850,000 Asians (almost all Indians). Each house would be elected on a separate voters' role. The 21 million Africans would remain unrepresented.

The parliament would have a total of 308 members. The existing House of Assembly, with its 178 members, would become the white house. To this would be added a House of Representatives of 85 members for Coloureds and a House of Deputies of 45 members for Asians.

The new president, who would combine the ceremonial and executive functions presently exercised by the state President and the Prime Minister, would be chosen by the majority vote of an electoral college composed of 50 whites, 25 Coloureds and 15 Asians.

The new constitution lists social welfare, education, housing, health, agriculture, arts, culture and recreation as largely being "own affairs" - i.e. matters on which each house

would legislate separately for its own race group.

All other matters are considered to be "general affairs" and would have to be approved by a majority in each house. The parliament would never vote jointly on anything, so it would not be possible for an alliance to be formed across the colour lines to outvote the majority group in the White House.

He could only be removed if all three houses separately passed a vote of no-confidence.

The President would also have a crucial role in resolving deadlocks when the three houses cannot agree on legislation, and in determining whether legislation comes under the heading of "general affairs" or "own affairs".

If the houses cannot agree on a "general" matter, the President can himself submit a new version of the offending legislation, or ask the President's Council for a ruling.

Lesotho Cabinet opposes chief's tour to the east

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg

Chief Leabua Jonathan, the Prime Minister of Lesotho, the Commonwealth enclave surrounded by South African territory, leaves today on a visit to Peking, North Korea, Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria.

He is expected to hold discussions on the establishment of full diplomatic relations with the five communist countries.

Sources said that the tour had been strongly opposed by the Lesotho Cabinet. The Prime Minister has been warned that the Lesotho Liberation Army, the militant wing of the opposition Basotho Congress Party, which he outlawed in 1970, could be expected "fully to exploit" his absence.

Pretoria, too, is viewing Chief Jonathan's travel plans with concern.

Rome envoy recalled by Argentina

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome

Argentina has recalled its Ambassador to Italy amid the deepening crisis between the two countries over the hundreds of Italians among the thousands of "disappeared ones" declared dead by the Argentine Government last week.

The Argentine Embassy said that Señor Rodolfo Lucchetto had been recalled "indefinitely" for consultations on the crisis.

The Italian Foreign Ministry said no decision had been taken on a possible recall of Señor Lucchetto, the Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires.

A memorandum from Señor Lucchetto asking for information about the fate of 407 Italians and people of Italian descent has been roughly rejected by the Argentine Foreign Ministry and called "unacceptable and such as to represent interference in the internal affairs of Argentina".

The sharp increase in tension came after a scathing attack at the weekend by President Pertini on Argentina's military regime.

● THE HAGUE: A former Argentine police official has claimed that some civilians who disappeared during Argentina's "dirty war" are still in government-run concentration camps, and that the political disappearances are continuing, AP reports.

The Argentine military junta still keeps political prisoners in secret, Señor Rodolfo Fernandez said, contradicting the junta's "final document on the war against subversion and terrorism" issued last week.

Western diplomats predicted the Soviet leadership would not retaliate against the expulsions and was likely to issue no more than a sharp commentary on the treatment of the Tudeh Party.

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Leading article, page 11

Divers join hunt for submarines

Stockholm. The Swedish Navy yesterday confirmed its hunt for at least two suspected Soviet midget submarines off its east coast. Christopher Moyse writes.

Two depth charges were dropped and divers sent down into the bay near the industrial town of Södertälje where two mines were detonated on Wednesday night. The Navy said it could not release news of its findings.

Major Bengt Sjöholm, the Defence Ministry spokesman, said it was "highly unlikely" that the submarine had escaped. He refused to comment on the possibility of it having been sunk.

Chernenko has pneumonia

Moscow (AP) - Mr Konstantin Chernenko, believed to have been the main rival of Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader in the leadership contest, has pneumonia, his office said yesterday, confirming accounts about his health given earlier by other Soviet sources.

Mr Chernenko who is 71, has not been seen in public for more than a month, missing four important party gatherings and prompting speculation about his status. He was recently absent from May celebrations in Red Square.

Women admit killing Saudi

Geneva (AP) - Two Swiss women aged 19 and 25 have claimed responsibility for the savage killing of a Saudi diplomat, aged 51, whose severely maimed body was found in a Geneva hotel on March 10.

It looked like an act of revenge "given the nature of the injuries", the investigating magistrate said. The victim, whose name was withheld, had rented a flat at the hotel since mid-1981. He was a cultural attaché with the Saudi mission at the United Nations.

A-plant leak is plugged

Brussels - The nuclear power plant at Tihange on the Meuse resumed normal working after a 10-day break for repairs to a pump. A small amount of slightly radioactive water which leaked through the pump was all collected and stored. Intercom, the company running the plant, said none of it escaped into the plant.

In Taiwan, a Taiwanese Foreign Ministry official said "all genuine freedom seekers" would be welcomed in Taiwan.

It was the first successful attempt to hijack a Chinese commercial aircraft.

captain, Li Una-Pyong, aged 28, defected to South Korea in its Chinese-built MiG 19 and a 25-year-old Chinese pilot defected from mainland China, also in a MiG 19, to South Korea last October and later went to the United Nations.

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Western diplomats in Moscow said the decision to expel the envoys, announced on Wednesday, brought Soviet-Iranian ties to their lowest level since the 1979 Islamic revolution and which have been built up over a long period in the interests of preventing detente in Europe.

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"I do not want the blame for the grossly provocative action against the Soviet people to fall on the French socialists, and even the communists."

The Kremlin's decision to show moderation should not be interpreted as proof of the guilt of the expelled Russians, however. He insisted, "If anyone interprets our attitude in that way, they understand nothing about Soviet foreign policy."

This move will not have surprised Moscow, but the Kremlin will deeply regret what amounts to a final affirmation of complete failure in its policy towards Iran.

"This move will not have surprised Moscow, but the Kremlin will deeply regret what amounts to a final affirmation of complete failure in its policy towards Iran," one Western analyst of Middle Eastern affairs said.

Jumbo loss

Hartlebury (AP) - Ever since Gracie the gorilla disappeared from Kamper Park Zoo in the foods that engulfed the Mississippi areas last month, Baber the elephant has not eaten and is heartbroken. A \$100 reward is now offered for the return of Gracie, an arthritic, fragile and looking every one of her 15 years.

Western diplomats in Moscow said the decision to expel the envoys, announced on Wednesday, brought Soviet-Iranian ties to their lowest level since the 1979 Islamic revolution and which have been built up over a long period in the interests of preventing detente in Europe.

After the radical Muslim leadership took control in Tehran in 1979, the Soviet Union repeatedly expressed support for the Islamic revolution and offered political cooperation and increased trade.

The ruling Iranian clergy remained cool towards the United States over the confrontation with the United States over the detention of American hostages in the US Embassy in Tehran.

On the Soviet side, there were occasional signs of anger with Iran, especially when the Soviet mission there came under attack from Afghan students, and evidence of differences within the Moscow party leadership over how to approach the Iranian Government.

The over three years, Moscow kept up its overtures. Only in the past few months did disenchantment become noticeable as the first sharp press attacks on the course of the Iranian revolution appeared.

The Soviet media has so far remained silent on both the decision to expel the diplomats, who were accused of interfering in internal affairs, and the bombing of the Tudeh Party.

The move against the party, which was proscribed under the Shah, followed a televised confession from Tudeh leader Mr Nureddin Kianmu that he had spied for Moscow.

Moscow has also made no mention of this, although Pravda last month attacked the Iranian authorities for arresting Mr Kianmu, saying charges that he was a Soviet agent were baseless.

Western diplomats predicted the Soviet leadership would not retaliate against the expulsions and was likely to issue no more than a sharp commentary on the treatment of the Tudeh Party.

Pigs ahoy

Apia, Western Samoa (Reuters) - About 300 pigs living on Fakafeta atoll in the Tokelau Islands of the South Pacific have learnt to swim and fish living on a diet of seashells, small molluscs and fish.

City dug up

Moscow (AP) - Archaeologists have discovered what they think is the ancient city of Shahr-i-Sherz under the Kirov-Kum desert in Soviet Uzbekistan, Tass reports.

Princess braves modern perils of the turbulent Khyber Pass

From Michael Hamlyn, Landi Kotal, North-West Frontier Province

The arrest of the drug king of the Khyber 10 days ago cleared the way for the visit of Princess Anne yesterday to the moun- tain pass leading to Afghanistan.

She was the first distinguished visitor to be allowed here for six months, ever since Mr William French Smith, the American Attorney-General, had an uncomfortable time when he arrived in the streets of the town in search of drug factories.

Not until the Princess's visit was actually under way was it finally decided that the pass was safe enough to allow her to drive up here. A visit to a dam and hydro-electric project had been planned as an alternative. Even so, she was not allowed to travel less than six miles of the border.

After Mr French Smith's visit, the Pakistani authorities agreed with the elders of the two principal tribal groups in the pass to clamp down on the drug trade, which had developed so fast that the Khyber had taken the place of the Golden Triangle in South-East Asia as the drug capital of the world.

Twenty-seven drug processing plants were closed down, but the elders of one tribe were not able to control their young men and six new plants were soon opened up. Bullets flew in the valleys over the rivalry that followed. Shaikh Junir, aged 33, owned four of the new stalls.

Chamberlain returns to Darwin jail

From Tony Dubbin
Melbourne

Mrs Lindy Chamberlain, convicted of the murder of her baby daughter, Azaria, is likely to wait until the end of June before she will know whether her plea to seek special leave to appeal to the High Court of Australia has been granted.

She will spend that time in Darwin's Berrimah jail where she was moved on Wednesday from Mulawa jail. She had been held there since last Friday after her appeal against her conviction of the murder of her 10-week-old daughter at Ayers Rock in August, 1980, was unanimously rejected.

Mrs Chamberlain was released on bail last November for the birth of her daughter Kahilia.

According to Mr Jahangir Khan, the Commissioner for Peshawar, Shaikh Junir was buying opium in Afghanistan, processing it in the Khyber valley, and shipping it to the US and Europe. The British authorities say the 80 per cent of heroin on the streets of London comes from Pakistan.

Shaikh Junir was arrested in Landi Kotal by the Pakistani authorities who used a ruse, which they will not disclose, to trap him. "We might want to use the trick again," said Mr Khan, "so we cannot reveal how we did it."

With Shaikh Junir behind bars in Peshawar sentenced by a military tribunal to three years in jail — "I favour a public flogging for him, as an example to others," said Mr Khan — the pass exploded into rioting. The tribal elders were warned again that the Pakistani authorities would react with the utmost vigour if the disturbances did not stop, and an uneasy calm had now descended.

According to Mr Shakk Durrani, the Khyber political agent, Shaikh Junir has caused more trouble than any other single individual. "He has contacts all over the world," he said. "I call him the heroin king."

So, instead of a traditional drive past this teeming town and a visit to a spectacular viewpoint where visitors can look down to the valleys and

dark dens that the Mujahidin and drug smugglers use in and out of the Soviet-occupied country, the Princess had to be content with the bleak grandeur of the drive along the pass to the headquarters of the Khyber Rifles here. She huffed at the insignia of British regiments, carved into the hillside, and kept ever freshly painted.

She swept past the reassuring sight of a policeman, draped in bandoles, and armed to the teeth standing every few hundred yards along the rocky way. To be fair, though, most of the male inhabitants of these parts were also walking around equally draped.

She was treated to a military occasion which might not have seemed out of place at Camberley. She had lunch in the officers' mess, sat afterwards on the lawn under the shade of a walnut tree for a display of dancing, and then sat formally for a regimental photograph. A pipe band greeted her playing an inmaculate "Scotland the Brave", and sped her on her way with "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow".

Her meal consisted of curried lamb, and bread baked on hot stones. She was presented with garlands of flowers and tinsel, and the dancing involved much whirling about and waving of swords.

The Princess rejoined the Andover of the Queen's Flight last night to return home.

Fresh approach to EEC finances

Britain's contribution to Europe may be cut by 10 per cent

From Ian Murray
Brussels

Agriculture would receive less and less from an enlarged budget for the European Community under plans announced yesterday by the European Commission.

If adopted in its present form, this scheme could have the effect of reducing Britain's contribution to the Community by around 10 per cent in the short term.

The Commission believes that the long-term impact of the new system would be to develop new policies in non-agricultural areas, which would directly benefit Britain.

Once the new system was working there would be no need for rebates to Britain. But until then the Commission believes special measures will be necessary.

Britain as an industrial rather than agricultural nation has suffered worse than any other country from the imbalance and its inherent pressure for a fairer system has forced the pace for reform.

The plans are meant to provide a whole new approach to the financing of the Community, replacing the present method of raising money which dates back to April 1970, and which is incapable of providing the budget with all the cash now needed.

The liquidity crisis has come about essentially because agricultural spending is so large that there is not enough money left to finance projects which could tackle the most important problems facing the Community — unemployment and industrial decline.

Britain would itself have to agree unanimously a new package.

The Commission proposes ways of cutting back agricultural spending and raising any extra money needed to fund farm prices by new mechanisms.

This would leave a larger part of the existing budget free for other purposes. To this would be added the extra money from value-added tax revenues.

In very broad terms this would mean that the agricultural share of the budget would drop from its present level of around two-thirds of all available money to about a quarter.

The main points of the proposals are:

● Agriculture: Only 33 per cent of the total budget to be used on supporting CAP. Extra CAP money to be raised according to three indicators —

agricultural production; gross domestic product per head of population; and the amount each country contributes to the net operating surplus of the Community.

● Value-added tax: Member states would have to pay up to 1.4 per cent of their VAT revenue instead of the present 1 per cent. This increase would have to be approved by national parliaments but future increases of 0.4 per cent could be approved by unanimous approval of the council and a three-fifths majority of the European Parliament.

● Energy: The Commission is working on a big overall energy programme and reserves the right to propose a tax based on "non-industrial consumption" during the next few months.

Hu arrives in Romania to patch relations

Bucharest (AP) — Mr Hu Yabang, the Chinese Communist Party leader, arrived here on an official visit that signalled a Chinese diplomatic offensive in Eastern Europe.

President Ceausescu of Romania greeted his guest with two ceremonial kisses, and a guard of honour shouted "long live the Comme General-Secretary," as Mr Hu acknowledged the cheers of about 3,000 flag-waving Romanians at Otopeni airport.

The welcome appeared to be much less lavish than the one given to former Chairman Hu Guofeng, the last Chinese leader to visit Eastern Europe, in 1978. It is the first trip for Mr Hu since he took over as general-secretary of the party in June, 1981.

Nakasone defends free trade record

From David Watts
Singapore

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, yesterday headed off any potential criticism of Japan at the forthcoming Williamsburg economic summit with a strong presentation of his country's role as a defender of free trade.

After his criticisms of protectionism in the West on the opening day of his visit to Singapore, Mr Nakasone said that no other country in the world had done as much as Japan to open up its domestic markets over the past two years.

Tokyo, he said, had made four successive moves to open its domestic market and cited the 50 per cent increase in quotas for imported industrial products under the generalized system of preferences which is the principal gift to Asian which he has brought on his first visit to the South-East Asia region. Japan had promised to present the views of less developed countries at Williamsburg.

Under the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT), rules Japan's residual import tariffs were now lower than some European countries, especially on agricultural products and Japan's low level of import tariffs on industrial goods now led the world.

Mr Nakasone said average tariff levels on imported industrial goods were about five per cent in the EEC, four plus per cent in the United States and about three per cent for Japan.

Things were moving too on the non-tariff barrier front, according to the Prime Minister, who said he had initiated revision of 18 existing laws which would simplify imports. Japanese largesse has been parsimonious by its standard of aid to other Asian countries towards Singapore has the greatest wealth per capita, and more importantly, the leading economic problem between the two countries is likely to mean further expensive outlay for Japan.

The problem is over-support for the big petrochemical complex which is being built in Singapore with Japanese Government loans as a joint venture with Sumitomo Chemical. The complex should have been in production a year ago, but the world market for petrochemicals long since collapsed and the Japanese side is in no hurry to start production which can only mean even greater losses when taken on top of the debt servicing already required.



Mitterrand defends Vietnam policy

President Mitterrand of France with Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's elder statesman (left), during talks in Peking yesterday. Mr Deng greeted reporters with a "Bonjour" and said France could put pressure on Vietnam to withdraw from Cambodia. M

Mitterrand had earlier defended France's relationship with Vietnam and its refusal to grant recognition to the coalition of forces fighting for a Vietnamese withdrawal, David Bonnaire writes.

He told a press conference on Wednesday that was anxious that Vietnamese troops should leave Cambodia, and that the country should achieve self-determination and neutrality through free elections. But "the coalition does not exercise enough

pressure on Vietnam, I am afraid of a return to the previous methods."

Mitterrand and Mr Deng had wide-ranging talks on multilateral and bilateral affairs. M Mitterrand also met Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister. The President emphasized France's advanced technology, which could, he said, be put to use in the development of China's economy.

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SPECTRUM

You may think you learnt by rote, but it could have been by 'morphic resonance'. Dr Rupert Sheldrake (right) has set the scientific world in turmoil with his theory that living things 'tune in' to the knowledge of their predecessors

Are we all on the same wavelength?

By Peter Lewis

Are children quicker at learning to ride of Clare College, Cambridge, and bicycles, or to roller skate, than they holder of a research fellowship of the Royal Society, but his hypothesis caused a furore. It postulated a new, immaterial force of nature that did not involve matter or energy and it conflicted head-on with the mechanist faith that everything can be reduced to physics and chemistry.

What of genetic programming? What of DNA? What of natural selection? Sheldrake believes their importance has been exaggerated. They are like the valves and copper wire connexions of a radio set: the actual programme is transmitted from somewhere else.

Denouncing Sheldrake as a heretic in a passionate and intemperate editorial, the editor of *Nature* magazine was appalled that this "infuriating tract" as being hailed as an answer to materialist science. Sheldrake was not only wrong, he was encouraging the thought that "there might be a place for magic in science."

The *New Scientist*, on the other hand, championed Sheldrake's right to be heard and to be judged by experiment. It pointed out that "modern science itself is founded on a hypothesis that has not been specifically tested: that the materialist explanations are all that is required."

Both journals' correspondence columns sizzled like heated retorts for months. The *New Scientist* offered a £250 prize for the best idea for an experiment to test whether morphic resonance indeed exists. Meanwhile, the Tarrytown Group, a scientific ideas forum in Tarrytown, New York,



offered a prize of \$10,000 for the best test that confirms or refutes the hypothesis by 1985, open to anyone, scientist or not.

Now the *New Scientist* has announced the winning entry in its competition, a simple and cheap experiment, which could be carried out in schools, to test whether learning something is made easier by the fact that many other people - preferably millions of them - have learnt it before you.

The winner, a fluid mechanics lecturer from Nottingham, Dr Richard Gentle, argues that according to Sheldrake a nursery rhyme, such as "Twinkle, twinkle, little star", should be very easy to learn because of all the children who have learnt it in the past.

The problem is to find a comparable rhyme to test it against, and enough people who do not know the rhyme already. So he chose a four-line Turkish nursery rhyme, known to generations of Turkish children, and altered the word-sequence to produce a similar looking rhyme, which is in fact gibberish, though only a Turkish-speaker could tell the difference.

The idea is to invite groups of pupils in schools to learn one or other of the rhymes, timing how long it takes them to repeat one of them by heart. Then the average learning time for the genuine rhyme and the fake can be compared, nobody involved knowing which was which.

If the genuine rhyme is learnt more quickly, it could have been helped along by the pooled memory field of all

those Turkish children. But will the result settle the matter? Not on its own, certainly. It is too wide-ranging a theory to be settled by a nursery rhyme and Sheldrake has devised other experiments.

If rats learn a new trick, other rats in other laboratories should become quicker at learning it. This effect was discovered by the psychologist, William McDougall, at Harvard, in the 1920s. Successive generations of his rats improved their speed of learning how to escape from a tank of water by the pool of previous learning of either means of a gangway.

This did not prove that they had inherited the ability. When the experiments were repeated in Australia, with unrelated strains of rats as controls, it was found that it made no difference which rats were used, their descendants all improved their performance.

Sheldrake has proposed a new experiment with rats in widely separate laboratories, to see if they affect one another's rate of learning as McDougall's rats seem to have done. Other experiments are possible with the growing of new crystals, with mutations in fruit-flies and with learning video games in, say, rural India.

If the theory is right, should we not have noticed its effect by now? Sheldrake believes we have. He says: "One of the mysteries of learning language is that babies do it so fast compared to adults. This applies also to an English baby learning Chinese, in Chinese surroundings, or vice versa. Children pick up the rules of the game, without text-books of grammar and

start making up new sentences, using language creatively.

"This sort of creative learning should be impossible on a stimulus-response model of learning. It led Chomsky to postulate an innate language ability, no matter what language, and therefore a 'deep structure' that all languages had in common. I believe it is morphic resonance at work. Any child picking up English, or Chinese, is assisted by the pool of previous learning of either language."

Sheldrake interrupted a well-established Cambridge career when he was in his thirties by going to Hyderabad to work at the International Crop Research Institute on improving strains and yields. He lived in a rajah's crumbling palace and his mind was freed to develop his theory. In 1978 he went to an ashram run by a Benedictine monk and wrote it down, in a hut under a banyan tree, on the banks of the river Cauvery in Southern India. After 18 months' work he brought back the first draft to his home in Newark, Nottinghamshire.

What made him start on his new science of life? It was the inability of current biology to account for the development of the plants he was working on. Cells that become leaves and cells that become stalks carry exactly the same DNA. The process of becoming a plant, a fish, a mammal or a human being is equally mysterious. The orthodox response is that one day we will be able to explain it in terms of incredibly complex interactions of physics and chemistry between cells, in its multifarious forms comes about.

triggered by a DNA code. This is an act of faith. It is at least as simple, and perhaps more intelligible, to imagine the process being conducted by morphogenetic fields.

The fields account more easily for the amazing capacity of living things to regenerate or repair themselves. "If you cut off parts of an embryo, it regenerates the missing parts. If you cut a magnet in half you get two complete magnetic fields, not two halves", Sheldrake points out. "In both cases the field maintains its integrity."

A kind of Conservation of Form principle could account for the way the eye of a newt, robed of its lens, will grow a new one out of its own iris, or the way any gardener can raise a whole plant from a small cutting. It could explain how flesh, bones and fingernails make good damage done to them.

"I am not the first person to suggest that morphogenetic fields are needed to explain development," said Sheldrake. "What is new about my interpretation is that the fields derive their structure from the past. What gives a fingernail field a fingernail structure? Plato held that somewhere there was an eternal, archetypal fingernail. I say that the field is caused by actual fingernails of the past, a kind of pooled memory."

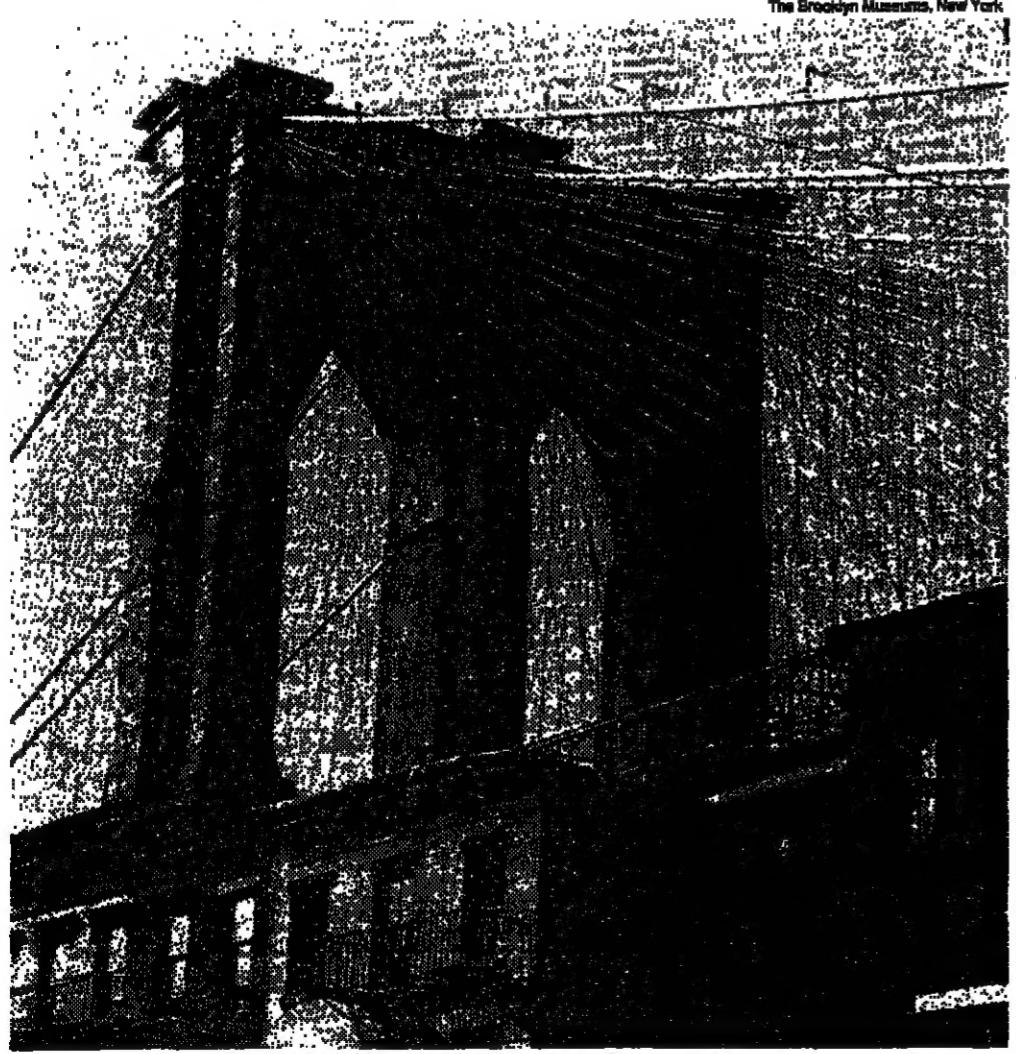
"Changes usually occur because the normal pathway is blocked, perhaps by a genetic defect or by a change in environment. Sometimes this defeats the organism. But in certain rare cases there is a creative jump." This can be seen when animals learn a new behaviour pattern. About 1952 blue tits learned how to open milk bottle tops and the habit spread through the population of Europe. Copying hardly seemed an adequate explanation of such a sudden and widespread new habit. Perhaps, after enough tits had learned the trick, a morphic resonance was set up affecting the rest.

Sheldrake's hypothesis meets the criterion of a scientific theory - it is verifiable by experiments which could prove its predictions. Sheldrake is eager to have it put to as many tests as possible. But supposing it fails the test - or that no confirmatory evidence can be found, what then? "If the balance of evidence is against it, I would have to abandon the theory," he says. "The possibility would remain that morphogenetic fields exist, though not created by past examples. They could be timeless, changeless principles, rather like Plato's archetypes. Or perhaps the mechanistic theory will ultimately explain everything without them."

His ideas have certainly caused a lot of excitement and attention: this week he goes to California, where he is already well known, to lecture on them. In June, he has been asked to go to Washington to address the Congressional Committee on The Future about his theory and its implications. And, who knows, somebody may even now be conducting the make-or-break experiment that may fundamentally alter our understanding of how life in its multifarious forms comes about.

One of New York's famous landmarks is 100 years old this month

The bridge so far...



Brooklyn Bridge 1981, a view by artist Donald Burns

One of the longest journeys in the world, Norman Podhoretz wrote, finding a particularly apt metaphor for the American Dream, is the journey from Brooklyn to Manhattan. The concrete symbol of that American aspiration is the Brooklyn Bridge, which celebrates its 100th birthday this month.

Even when it was new, the bridge assumed a mythic stature. An architectural critic, Montgomery Schuyler, welcomed it in 1883 with these words: "It so happens that the work which is likely to be our most durable monument, and to convey some knowledge of us to the most remote posterity, is not a work of bare utility; not a shrine, not a fortress, not a shrine, but a bridge..."

New Yorkers are preparing to celebrate the anniversary, but one trusts that the festivities will not be as hectic as those of the opening week, when such a massive holiday crowd surged on to the bridge that 12 people were trampled to death. Yet that was rather characteristic. From the beginning, sufficient tragedy attended the construction of the bridge to make it a truly heroic enterprise, and one that was immediately perceived as an expression of something in the American spirit.

Its progenitor, John A. Roebling, a German-born en-

gineer, was killed by it. Roebling was one of those stern, determined characters that the nineteenth century specialized in producing the world over. Having emigrated in 1831, he founded a German settlement called Saxonburg, in Pennsylvania, where he intended to farm, and, of all things, breed canaries.

Though the township prospered, Roebling's own means of support proved unsatisfactory, and he turned to making iron rope - the first in the United States. It was used in the cable railways that crossed the mountains of the state. Soon he was building suspension bridges, most spectacularly across the Niagara Falls, but also in Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.

The reverse side of his scientific rationalism was a passionate but unfounded belief in hydrotherapy - the curing of illnesses by bathing. When, down by the Brooklyn water-front, from prospecting the site for one of the bridge towers, his foot was crushed by a docking boat, his response was to plunge it instantly into a tub of cold water. Tetanus set in, and he died in horrible suffering three weeks later.

That was in 1869. His son,

Colonel Washington A. Roebling, who had played a notable

part at Gettysburg, took over, and the bridge left him a permanent invalid. The problem was the technique used to build the vast towers, each weighing 70,000 tons, on either side of the East River.

To sink the foundations, great bottomless wooden boxes called caissons - each half the size of a city block - were constructed, submerged by means of stones piled on the top, and pumped full of compressed air, which kept them watertight. Gangs of unskilled immigrant labourers, on the whole pleased to find a job that paid more than the average, entered by means of airlocks and quarried down to bedrock by hand.

But some workers developed cramps and headaches and were seen to walk with a stoop, thereafter referred to as the "Grecian Bend" (the name of a ballroom dance). This malady was, of course, the bends, still known medically as caisson disease. After a long spell in one of the caissons when fire broke out in 1871, Washington Roebling collapsed.

Attacks recurred and he was forced to withdraw from the work altogether, lying in agony in a darkened room, although he finally recovered sufficiently to direct work from his house in

Brooklyn, overlooking the site. Twenty-five men lost their lives while the bridge was being built. Many died from the bends - their legs, according to one contemporary account of their sufferings, "twisted like plaited hair". Because of the danger, the Manhattan caisson was stopped before bedrock was reached, so that the tower rests on packed sand. Some men fell from the towers or were killed when a suspension wire snapped and lashed back.

The bridge, 14 years in building, was subject to the graft and corruption inherent in most great American public works of the time. The notorious Tammany Hall politician, "Boss" Tweed, managed to gain control of the bridge company and award contracts until he was imprisoned.

All Roebling's vigilance was necessary to prevent J. Lloyd Haigh, the cable contractor, from foraying certificates of switching loads and sending to the bridge steel that the inspectors had failed.

Yet almost at once the bridge captured the public imagination. Even before it was begun, a Congressman called Barnes declared: "Babylon had her hanging gardens, Nineveh her towers, and Rome her Colosseum; let us have this great

monument to progress." When built, the towers - arched like the aisles of a Gothic cathedral - were among the city's tallest structures, head, shoulders and torso above the tenements of Brooklyn. To *Harper's Weekly*, they were "more wonderful than the Pyramids".

Needless to say, as soon as the bridge opened to the public there were those who either fell or deliberately threw themselves off it. A self-publicist swimming instructor called E. Odum jumped to his death in 1885. Steve Brodie claimed to have leapt (he probably did not) and made a fortune out of re-enacting the scene in a play called *On the Bowery*. The youth slipping from the catwalk in the film *Saturday Night Fever* is only the latest in a tradition.

In recent years, real-life tragedies have also occurred. In 1981, a pedestrian was killed when a stay parted and whipped downwards. But the engineers are confident that the bridge, built with human sacrifice and occasionally still exacting its toll, will survive another century yet.

Clive Aslet
The author is senior architectural writer for Country Life.

Play it again, Johannes

MOREOVER Miles Kington

would fall for it. He was right. Hastily establishing that the folk tunes were not in copyright, Brahms turned them into concert display pieces and played them in brothels all over the world. At the end of the programme he would slam the keyboard lid shut, jump up and shout: "And that's jazz!"

As nobody knew what he was talking about, they preferred to call it Hungarian Dances, but either way, as they put it back in the cotton fields, they done stole our music again.

Brahms was always secretly disappointed that the stuffy audiences didn't show more reaction, and he would often break off in the middle of a piece and observe drily to his opponent, with Brahms winning the encore on points.

"Just, typical of Wagner," growled Brahms afterwards, "to send in a dep for a big gig." He later got his own back when he thrashed Wagner at snooker in the big Bayreuth Finals, 16 frames to three, and went on to meet the Russian champion, Tchaikovsky, whom he always considered rather too effete to be a really good snooker player. Brahms was a larger-than-life character who had diamonds set in all the white keys of his travelling piano. Before he breezed into a new town, the place would be plastered with posters saying: "Brahms is coming! All pianists are requested to leave town for their own safety." And then the great man himself would arrive, in a white suit, surrounded by bodyguards and attended personally by the Abbé Lix. The first thing he would ask on arrival was the address of the

best brothel in town, and there he would sit for hours strumming at the piano those old tunes he had learned back on the Danube levees and maybe accompanied by the singing of the madame (played by the young Billie Holiday). Then he would proceed to the concert hall and, in his own words, "knock 'em in the aisles."

At the end of his life, when he was fat and heavy, he opened a bar in Vienna and became a bit of a nostalgic bore. I prefer to think of the Johannes Brahms with his razor-crease suits, his rakish straw hat and the slim cheroot, thrashing hell out of the 38 ivories and leaping into the audience to pummel any critic he spotted writing something adverse about him. Men still talk about the time he beat up three reviewers and issued four proposals of marriage during a performance of his first piano concerto, without missing a single note.

Forget about the BBC celebrations. Let's go out tonight and get drunk in his memory.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 54)

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FRIDAY PAGE

A man about the house

As well as the normal stresses of being lone breadwinner, the working wife is prey to a set of traditional assumptions about the division of labour. She is the victim of a social system geared to male authority which effectively denies her very existence. The most obvious example of this is in relation to Family Income Supplement. A married woman cannot claim F.I.S. because, ostensibly, she is not the head of the household. Similarly, the jobless husband whose wife is supporting him is not eligible for supplementary benefit.

According to the Low Pay Unit, up to 270,000 women are affected in this way. A spokeswoman said that usually a woman's wage was not enough to maintain a family, and yet the woman herself was barred from "topping up" her income with F.I.S. For most women breadwinners, therefore, it made more sense to become unemployed and fall back on supplementary benefit.

In November, thanks to an EEC directive, the F.I.S. ruling will be changed so that, for social security benefit purposes, the breadwinner's sex is immaterial.

The Low Pay Unit, while welcoming this, will continue to press for overall improvements in women's earnings. "For a long time now we've argued for a minimum wage as being of major value to women workers", said the spokeswoman. A recent report, *Families in the Future*, by the Study Commission on the Family, explores the idea of the typical worker as the *married man* with a wife at home. Married women, it says, now represent a quarter of the workforce.

It states that more than two million children live in families with incomes around the poverty line. It also reveals that without women's earnings, four times as many families would be in poverty. As one woman lecturer/breadwinner said: "With unemployment as high as it is, who is and who is not the breadwinner is often a matter of luck, not choice."

Swapping domestic roles seems to do more for sexual equality than the nagging of liberationists. Veronica Grocock talks to three couples who switched roles as a result of necessity after the husbands became redundant

John and Sue Tanner are in their late thirties and live in Scunthorpe. They own their home and have two children, William, aged 11, and Robert, aged nine. John, a former community relations officer, was made redundant in October. Sue is a welfare rights worker, a job she was offered only weeks before the news of John's redundancy. Previously she worked part-time at a local women's aid group, and before that was a full-time housewife.

Sue: "John has always been the sort of husband who did quite a lot at home. He took over a lot of the child care and housework. The problem for me is that my job is 25 miles away and I don't get paid as much as he did. Just over £6,000 a year, compared with John's previous salary of £9,500."

Financial worries aside, Sue is enjoying the swap. "I sometimes worry about what would happen if I lost my job. Every breadwinner does, I suppose. But I do get quite a kick out of being the one who brings home the money, and it's nice coming home to a cooked meal."

"At work you do have a lot of power and it's easier to feel you've done something. Even if you've sat there chewing your nails you've been to work and this is your justification for the day", said John. On the plus side, John sees more of their sons ("I have it easy because they are growing up now. It's not an onerous responsibility"), and has more control of the money, if less of it to spend.

John admits to a very strong need to be in work. "I say it doesn't matter, but, deep down it does... Housewives are not valued very highly in society, and at the moment

meant a drop in their standard of living, with the 'inevitable friction' if John wants to go to the pub."

Sue finds that being the breadwinner makes it far easier to treat home as a place of relaxation. "When you are at home with the children, there are always a hundred things you should be doing. You never actually relax... Out at work the lunch-hour is yours - time for yourself!"

John: "It's an opportunity to do things that one has always wanted. At 37 I have learned how to make pastry and bread, and I am keeping chickens. It's quite fun, as long as it doesn't go on too long." With a 30 per cent unemployment rate in Scunthorpe, the remark John regularly hears is "Lovely weather. Are you working?" He finds the isolation that harder part.

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Sue and Richard Ambrose: reassessment of less rigid roles

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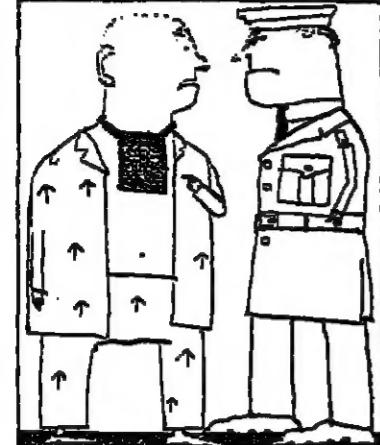
THE TIMES DIARY

Save it

Arthur Rosebud invents gadgets that "consume energy as if there were no tomorrow" the National Consumer Council says. His automatic dog-walker, anti-insomnia machine and super-heated swimming pool incur the displeasure of the Department of Energy, and he is persuaded to turn his garden into testing ground for water wheels and windmills instead.

Arthur Rosebud's Revelation is a play commissioned by the Department of Energy to tour schools putting across the message about energy conservation and alternative sources. Meanwhile the Department has cut its budget for research in such matters by more than a fifth this year. "We have simply concentrated our resources," an energetic official explains.

BARRY FANTONI



Unsuitable

Surprise at the record price (£1,925,000) paid for the Henri II suit of armour in Sotheby's Hever sale yesterday is heightened by the fact that Henri was hardly a good advertisement for armour. He was killed in a joust with Captain Montgomery of his Scots Guards when a sliver of lance penetrated first his visor and then his brain.

I salute the careful husbandry at W. H. Smith's London Bridge branch which yesterday, when the 1983 Proms were announced, was still offering for sale the 1982 prospectus.

Keeping mum

What have Rhodes Boyson and Laurie Pavitt, Conservative and Labour MPs for Brent North and South respectively, in common? Not much, but their names were both big in the Co-op, a discovery I owe to the research Jean Gaffin and David Thoms put into their centenary history of the Co-operative Women's Guild, *Caring and Sharing*, published this week. Pavitt's mother was national president in 1934, and he worked for the Co-op youth movement before becoming a Labour and Co-op MP. Less predictably, Mother Boyson was president of the Haslingden branch for a long period, and Rhodes himself was six years a director of the local Co-op. "I never knew that before," says Gaffin, "and he's my MP."

Astute students

Alex Hambro, son of the chairman of Hambro's Bank; James Ogilvy, son of Angus Ogilvy and Princess Alexandra; and Rupert Goodman, son of an Eton housemaster, are as Cambridge undergraduates, supplementing their government grants by running a glossy London giveaway magazine called *Freeway*. Now in its third issue, the magazine is crammed with expensive (£400-£700) ads for manor houses, luxury cars, decanters of cognac at £90, and the like. The business section has articles by a director of Hambro's, and by Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange. The young entrepreneurs claim the magazine goes free to 5,000 AB businessmen.

Oops-a-Daisy

Will the drama critic of *The Guardian* report to the head's study after school? His review of the rippling school yarn, *Daisy Pulls It Off*, is quoted in the West End: "a wealth of accurate detail". The play, set in the 1920s, opens with a rousing rendition of "There'll always be an England". The song was written in 1939.

Word to the wise

I live with the inhibiting notion that *Times* readers know everything already. So here is a challenge. In connection with next week's publication of the new *Chambers Dictionary* a competition has been organized with a copy as the prize. It is identify the word which means "the carousing of seamen of icebound ships". Tell me the answer quickly enough, and I'll give you the prize.

Driving is a dodgy business in south-west England, the World Conference on Transport Research heard in Hambro last week. One out of every 16 crossroads in the region points in the wrong direction. The discovery was made by Department of Transport engineers testing a computer program to check for inconsistencies and errors in the national signpost network. In the eight south-western counties places were so often left off, posted for no good reason or mentioned only intermittently that an average of seven changes would be needed at every road intersection to achieve consistency.

PHS

Ken Livingstone's pantomime cow

While most of England and Wales has cast its vote, Londoners must wait until 1985 before passing judgment on the Labour-controlled GLC. Anne Sofer, a Social Democrat councillor, assesses its first two years.

At a recent council meeting, in an attempt to enliven a dull debate about the GLC's "Peace Year" proposals, the front bench Labour spokesman wound up with a rousing speech. "I'm not a pacifist" (he said passionately) "I'm ready to fight. But when we go to war, it won't be against the Russians. Oh, no." (And he pointed dramatically at the Tories on the front bench opposite) "It will be against you fascists over there!"

This is the sort of thing the council loves. Since most of the business has been predigested in the committees and before that in the Labour group, council meetings are regarded less as policy-making occasions than as oratorical jousts. This particular clash of arms was greeted with cheers and jeers, shouts of admiration and roars of outrage. The speaker turned to accept the congratulations of his colleagues and the Conservatives rose to shake their fists. Another high point to remember in the bar afterwards.

The element of charade has always been strong at County Hall. Its proceedings are so strongly influenced by the consciousness of that other seat of government across the river that it often seems to be performing a dress rehearsal, or parody, of a production going on elsewhere. Most debates in the council chamber are on matters over which the GLC has no control at all: defence policy, Northern Ireland, monetarism, the Falklands.

But whether the majority of these visitors are representative of the "community" in a political sense is more open to doubt. A selection of those groups meeting in County Hall over a couple of weekends this spring gives the flavour: Women's Media Action Group, AEUW Broadcast Left, Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament, Black Trade Unionist Solidarity Movement, Labour Steering Committee against the Witch Hunt...

With the new political style comes a new language - studiously non-sexist and based on a political ideology that comes jumping out at the most unexpected moments. A recent proposal to fund a cooperatively run laundrette was justified on the ground that it represented the "socialization of washing as a form of domestic production".

It helps to know the language if you want a grant. The GLC's open-handedness has provoked a deluge of applications and an extra £1.25m is being spent this year simply on staff to process them. Your chances of getting some money are enhanced if you use words like "campaign" or "protest" or "mobilizing the community". "Struggle" may hit the jackpot. And although grants are not supposed to be given to groups

promoting a political party, a generous use of the word "socialist" is recommended - and permitted on the grounds that the Labour Party is not a true socialist party!

"I take pictures of strikes, demos, pickets, etc" hopefully wrote a photographer applying for a grant from the Arts and Recreation Committee. (She got it). Centres for the unemployed have been told they will not get grants unless they turn their attention from providing advice and recreation to "campaigning". The Police Committee agreed last week to fund three organizers to "coordinate popular expression of views" against the Police Bill. Indeed hostility against the police leads to the strongest language of all. If the struggle against them led to the manufacture of petrol bombs, declared one enthusiast at a GLC-sponsored conference, "then so be it". The chairman of the GLC Police Committee, sitting on the platform, joined the applause.

Every document we receive now has to include a paragraph describing what the implications are for women. For the officers who have responsibilities for drafting papers on bus lanes, waste stations, Thames piers and listed buildings this is clearly a challenging intellectual exercise. The regular report on canal walks always concludes with the reassuring assertion that the proposals have resulted from consultations with "multi-racial/sexual community groups". Sometimes a gallant effort boomerangs.

The comment in a proposed grant to a rugby club that "Rugby is of course primarily a male sport, but women are always a welcome addition to the rugby scene . . ." was not well received by the committee. As part of the fight against male attitudes to the "oppressed gender class", sexual harassment has now been made a disciplinary offence under the GLC staff code. Defined as (*inter alia*) "unreciprocated leering", it is taken very seriously. When I attempted some feeble witicism against the idea I was reproached for my unsisterly attitude. "Surely, Anne, as a woman

you've suffered . . . I found this unanswerable, on several counts.

The Tories fulminate against Marxism and make sinister comparisons with Eastern Europe, the one-party state, etc. One can see their political point, but as far as the approach and the style go they are looking in completely the wrong direction. There are far more parallels with the American mayoral system, whereby one person, backed by a party machine, wins control of a city, and can then use its resources for his or her own propaganda and patronage for the next four years.

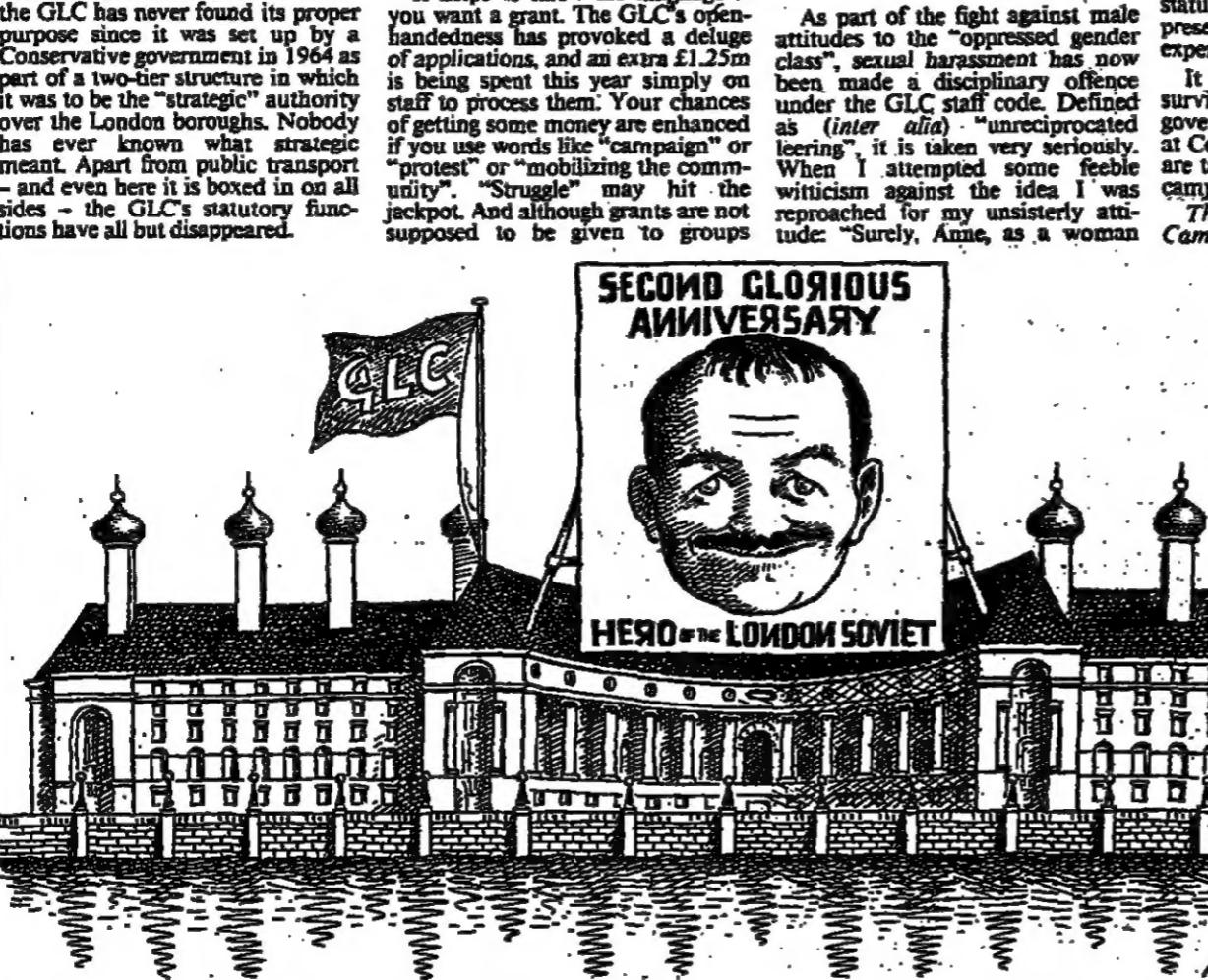
That Ken Livingstone himself sees it this way is clear. Before the May 1981 Labour victory he was writing in *London Labour Briefing*, the self-styled "organ of communication for the left of the Labour Party in London", that the aim of winning would be to "use the council machinery as part of a political campaign both against the government and in defence of socialist policies". He has always insisted on the need to appoint officers "committed to our policies". *London Labour Briefing* ran the banner headline after the election, "London is Ours", and since then politicians and media alike have conspired to give the impression that Ken Livingstone is "running London", is "London's political boss", "Chief" and "Supreme".

It is of course a false impression. Most of the services that affect the daily life of London's citizens - housing, policing, education and training, social services, health, road sweeping and rubbish collection, libraries - are run by other authorities, and not by the GLC at all. Maybe the mayoral structure is a more appropriate one for big city government than our present three-tier muddle, but it is not what we have got.

So what will happen to the GLC? However wide the disagreements about what to do with it (and the argument seems to rage within all the political parties, as well as between them) one thing is obvious: it should either be given clearer statutory functions or abolished. Its present powerlessness makes it an expensive luxury for London.

It seems however to have survived the threat of immediate government action. The Tory Group at County Hall, under a new leader, are talking openly already about the campaign to win in 1985.

The author is SDP councillor for Camden/St Pancras North.



Will the election date be set this weekend? Nicholas Wapshot weighs the chances

Judging omens and juggling options

Every stone has been turned, every rung inspected, every individual leaf held up to the light for a clue to the date of the general election. This weekend, speculation comes to a climax, as the Prime Minister officially considers the matter for the first time. All evidence, however far-fetched, is taken seriously. When it became known that Roy Jenkins was this weekend due to make a rare appearance in Glasgow, Hillhead, cynics deduced that an election must be a certainty.

Another entrail being given particularly careful perusal by students of the constitution at the moment is the timing of the Cardiff North-west by-election. By the rule laid down by the late Speaker, Selwyn Lloyd, in 1973, the writ must be issued within three months of the vacancy arising, which is next Tuesday.

Two weeks ago, John Biffen handed the matter over to the Speaker, who, all things being equal, should announce on Tuesday that the by-election shall be held on June 9. What chance, then, of the Prime Minister announcing an election on June 16 or 23, sweeping up the by-election in her wake? Would anyone complain? Would the pair of premier parliamentarians, Michael Foot and Enoch Powell, cry "Gerrymander"?" It would be only a small embarrassment, but in general elections, things can get out of proportion very easily.

One way of avoiding such a wrangle would be to announce a general election before the Speaker announces the by-election.

By Monday or Tuesday next, the Prime Minister will in any case be well-equipped to make up her mind. Despite her protestations that she has been thinking about everything except the date of the election, by Sunday night she can no longer give that excuse. She will leave Downing Street tonight, heading for Chequers and perhaps the most significant weekend of her political life. By her own admission, a second term is essential for her transformation of Britain. So far she has just been building the foundations.

Today the full local election results will provide the biggest test

yet of public opinion on which she can base her decision. Tomorrow, in Central Office in Smith Square, the results will be fed into a sparkling new £700,000 computer, an ICL ME29, donated anonymously by an admirer. It will take the figures and apply them to the new parliamentary boundaries, giving an accurate projection of how the country would vote in a general election. The verdict will be rushed to Chequers for her perusal.

Meanwhile, this lunchtime, at the education centre of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union in Woodstock College, near Kingston-upon-Thames, there will be a grand council of war of the labour movement. Labour's Shadow Cabinet, national executive and most trade union leaders, under the umbrella of Trade Unions for a Labour Victory - a coalition of all major trade unions except the National Union of Mineworkers - will sit down for two days of election planning.

The Woodstock pow-wow was originally convened after the Labour debacle at Bermondsey, when trade unions panicked at the prospect of another five years of Norman Tebbit, who has promised to reduce their powers drastically if granted a second term. Though originally convened by Moss Evans, of the Transport and General Workers' Union, to bolster Michael Foot's leadership, it was thought after Bermondsey that any meeting which brought the leaders of the Labour movement together might result in eliciting the infamous "sick note" which would allow Mr Foot to stand well in favour of Denis Healey.

The Labour victory at Dartington and the arrival of general election fever has changed all that. Now, instead of talking about the leadership and policy differences, the union leaders are eager to discuss the nuts and bolts of the campaign, in particular, drafting their members into the key marginals and, above all, passing around the hat.

Only if Mrs Thatcher declares an election today will they, momentarily, consider doing what the Australian Labour Party did, switching leaders at the beginning of an election campaign, which is known

therefore likely from Downing Street on Monday or Tuesday. On Tuesdays, by chance, the Prime Minister has her weekly meeting with the Queen, so what better time to ask for a dissolution?

Which brings us to the date. If she calls it all off, circle some time in October. However, if she announces one on Monday or Tuesday, it depends how long she wants the campaign to run. With such a clear lead in the opinion polls, it would be rash to allow it to last any longer than the bare minimum, which would make it June 9. To fix a date a week or two later would be a confident decision, defying the precedent of June 1970, when the drip-drip-drip of an unsleeping Opposition leader plugging away on one theme got through to the electorate in the last few days.

The Labour Party, so far waging a surrogate campaign against the Tories through CND, will be bringing out its secret weapon: the fear of unemployment. A long campaign could see the Tory lead slip away as the Labour movement spoke, for once, with one voice.

So, what of June 9? There would then be a problem about Mrs Thatcher attending two important summits, at Williamsburg, from May 28 to 30, and at Stuttgart, on June 6 and 7. As both would fall in

an election campaign, she would be reminded of an awkward precedent set in 1945 by Winston Churchill, who took Attlee with him to Potsdam, in his words: "in case anyone says 'Why are you committing yourself to something for which you have no authority and when in the ballot box there may be something which strips you of your authority?'" Nevertheless, she has told President Reagan she will attend Williamsburg, which takes place over the spring bank holiday weekend - not a heavy electioning period.

And the week of June 9 includes the state visit of the President of Sri Lanka. Both Margaret Thatcher and Michael Foot will be invited to the state banquet on Tuesday, June 7, and the Palace has let it be known that no excuses will be accepted, even for a general election. And so the waiting goes on.

David Watt

Heading for a fall at the summit?

Quite another to be lined up for a group photograph alongside Herr Kohl and Mr Nakasone.

This brings us to the third and most important assumption that people are making about the public relations of the summit: what matters is that the meeting should take place, not what happens at it. This, which one might call the "Field of Cloth of Gold" syndrome, proceeds from the idea that all summits are primarily international theatre. Nothing, it is said, can be seriously achieved between the principals in two days of polite, desultory chat. If there is agreement at all, it will have been reached at official level beforehand and will require only to be given a historic stamp of approval at the summit meeting itself.

There is some truth in this. The western economic summits have had a symbolic value since their inception in 1975, signifying the determination of western governments to maintain and control a stable and reasonably open international economic system in spite of the recession and in spite of all the shocks. Where they have succeeded in doing something dramatic as, for instance, in the case of the Bonn Summit in 1978 (which sealed the bargain whereby President Carter undertook to decontrol the American oil market in return for German reflation) most of the spadework has usually been done already. But there is more to it than that.

For one thing the reality of the summit dialogue, though less than it could be if the meetings were differently arranged - is still valuable. Attitudes and sometimes even decisions can be changed. But that is another, long story. What matters in the context of public politics is that there is a difference between good and bad theatre, between tragedy, comedy, farce, and Grand Guignol. And it is by no means clear that all are equally popular with the groundlings. The last summit, at Versailles, for example, was a tragic-comedy in which President Reagan and President Mitterrand talked with great animation and, it turned out, subsequently, with total lack of communication. The immediate effect was not particularly exciting. The long-term reaction was deplorable.

At Williamsburg there are not the makings of a great flop - but there is no premonition of a great hit either. No concrete agreement is yet in sight on a grand strategy for the international monetary system; there is not even much prospect of a repayment of IDA - the World Bank's soft loan fund. On trade in general we shall at best get some worthy declarations of allegiance to an open system (reinforced with a few dark forebodings) of a Third World financial crisis unless everyone lends a helping hand and on East-West trade a sour agreement to disagree. There will be a lot of whooping about world recovery now being in full swing, but who, after so many false dawns, is really ready to believe it?

The Prime Minister has got to go to Williamsburg. But the positive additional bonus that will accrue from being seen there will depend less on the existence of the summit club and Mrs Thatcher's membership of it than on what people think of the other members. At present the leaders of the West look a pretty lacklustre bunch. It is one thing to hobnob with Stalin and Roosevelt (let us forget about Chiang Kai-shek for a moment or even Eisenhower, de Gaulle and Khrushchev). It is

Philip Howard

A grenadier on a hill-top high

Hawthorne

remarked that being almost the only hill in Lincolnshire, the inhabitants seem disposed to make the most of it.

1. By an optical illusion and dead ground, as you approach by the road from *Normanby* you can see the great rose window above the Bishop's Eye from miles away through the trees and ruins of the Bishop's palace.

2. The Class distinction between the Above Boys and the Below Boys noted by Eliot in one of his *Last Essays* survives: up the hill quiet and tasteful tourist shops, down the hill hamburgers and hurly burly crowd scenes.

2. Did you know that the monumental statue of Tennyson by George Frederic Watts, showing the Laureate looking down grumpily at a tiny flower in his hand, is known locally as "The Disgruntled Cabbie"?

2. There is a good motto on the former girls' school, now converted to the Art School: "Discit aut discide." Impractical these days, however.

3. Are we quite sure that the point about Lincoln Green was the bright green colour and not the weave? I detect some uncertainty in the sources. Is it possible that Robin Hood and his Merry Men were shockingly pink?

3. What is a Wong? And if you answer, "Two Wongs don't make a White", kindly leave the page. There is a street by the cathedral called Lowes Wong. I'll tell you what a Wong is: it's a piece of unenclosed meadowland, etymology Old English and Old Danish, for we are in the Danelaw up here, my masters.

4. "Which is this?" They say that Lincoln was, and London was not. John Taylor, "The Water Poet", was wrong again, Taylor.

4. The catheral is, I believe, the finest building in the whole world.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

FRIENDS TALKING

Of all the threats to the Atlantic Alliance at this time the most insidious is the creeping anti-Americanism that is evident in Britain and elsewhere in western Europe. There are a number of reasons for this. One of the most significant is the change of generations. Nobody who has come to maturity within the past quarter of a century can have a personal memory of the Second World War or of the Soviet expansion throughout eastern Europe. Younger generations do not therefore have the same recollection of shared danger. Nor do they have the same recollection of a common sense of purpose that came from the rebuilding of western Europe and the establishment of the international trading and monetary systems in the early postwar years.

The power of the United States, which was earlier seen as the prime safeguard for freedom, is now often regarded more as an economic challenge or a social irritant. In Britain we passed through a phase, which we ought now to be able to put behind us, of wanting to show that we were truly European by demonstrating that we were anti-American. De Gaulle's vision of Britain as America's Trojan horse lived after him, a ghost that sometimes seemed to frighten Britain as much as it did other European countries.

But a special reason for the growth of anti-Americanism has been the decline in the quality of the transatlantic dialogue. Not since John Kennedy has there

THE WAGES OF OPPORTUNISM

"In my opinion, the mistakes we made are really grave. There was espionage, deceit, treachery - all of those were there. These are serious aberrations and, in my opinion, they deserve the most severe punitive actions that the Islamic Republic may decide to mete out."

With these words, spoken on Iranian television last Saturday, Mr Nuredin Kianuri pronounced, in all probability, his own death warrant as well as that of the Tudeh party of which he has been a leading member throughout its forty-two-year existence and secretary-general since 1978. Sure enough on Wednesday the prosecutor general announced the dissolution of the "pro-Soviet and treacherous Tudeh", ordering all its members and supporters to report to his office within a week. A few hours later, in an ostensibly separate but no doubt connected development, the foreign ministry ordered eighteen Soviet diplomats to leave the country.

Mr Kianuri's interview/interrogation ended with a "final message" to the young members of his party: "In my opinion the thing they should refrain from and avoid as much as possible is that no Leftist trend should infiltrate Iran as it means affiliation to foreigners, to aliens." It is hard to imagine a

more abject denial of everything this veteran communist leader's career had stood for, devoted as it was to internationalism and to the faithful application in Iran of a political line devised in Moscow, often in total disregard of Iranian political conditions, not to mention Iranian national interests.

The methods used to win him over, the "confidence" do not bear too much thinking about.

"Serve him right", one is tempted to say, for at least two reasons. First, he represented the movement and the power which first perfected this odious technique, in the Moscow show trials of the 1930s. Secondly, he and his party - on Moscow's instructions no doubt - had insisted on continuing to support the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini in spite of its open contempt for them and their ideas and in spite of the violent repression which it used against all other left-wing parties.

Why did it do so? The most obvious answer is that the Tudeh party hoped thereby to escape such repression itself, and to be in a position to expand its membership and influence with a view to seizing power in a later phase of the revolution. There must have been an element of that. Mr Kianuri and his colleagues certainly underestimated the danger they were in. Otherwise they would not have been

MINISTERS DO NOT MAGNATES MAKE

It is more than 35 years since Mr Herbert Morrison and his Socialisation of Industries Cabinet Committee reshaped one chunk of British industry after another in the image of his first and favourite creation, the London Passenger Transport Board. In the early 1980s, nobody is now satisfied with the condition of his progeny, or many of the other nationalised industries as this week has shown.

At the level of high politics, the Prime Minister made it clear that a second Thatcher administration would march on another privatisation crusade. "It's absolutely ridiculous", she told our Political Editor, "that so many industrial and commercial decisions should come up to a Cabinet and a Prime Minister". From the top plateau of bureaucracy, Sir Peter Carey, retiring Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry, said, exhibiting a civil servant's love of understatement, that the relationship between Government and state corporations was "less than perfect" due to an "underlying ambivalence on the part of governments".

On the left politicians also tend to be smug about the Morrison model. It lacked any concept of worker participation, let alone worker control: it was applied only to big, war-worn industries or those wrestling with long-term structural difficulties. According to this school of political economy nationalisation has never been given a chance in Britain, unlike France or Italy.

The most damaging piece of recent evidence that all is not well in the public sector has come in a little noticed memor-

andum prepared for the all-party Commons Public Accounts Committee by Mr Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General, and used to good effect in examining two permanent secretaries. Mr Downey's paper, which illustrated beyond question the feebleness of Whitehall's grip on important aspects of nationalised industry finance, was based on case studies of relations between the Department of Transport and the British Railways Board, the Department of Energy, and the National Coal Board, and the Department of Industry and British Telecom.

The paper showed just how inadequate are the sinequa non of financial control, in both the public corporations and the Whitehall divisions charged with watching them. Admittedly, Whitehall as a whole has to monitor 19 state industries with a combined turnover in 1981-82 of some £38 billion and a labour force of about 1.5m, but Morrison created a Leviathan which, by its very size, is now clearly uncontrollable.

There is no panacea, but some suggestions for reform have more merit than others. What would not help, despite the views of some nationalised industry chairmen, is to make the Treasury the ministry of nationalised industries and the sponsoring department for all of them. The task is too big for one institution and the Treasury must maintain its role as umpire, somewhat above the fray and ultimate controller of the purse strings. To argue, as the Social Democrats tend to, that much of the problem would be solved if they are fighting for, and how to get there.

economy were frozen is a surrender to intellectual bankruptcy. Stability can be an asset, but a status quo which perpetuates deficiencies unearthing by Mr Downey is not something to cherish.

Sir Peter Carey's suggestion that the Government should pay top rates to attract top people into chairmanships and then leave them to get on with it has genuine merit, and has certainly been followed in the case of Mr Ian MacGregor. Though if logic has a part, that would imply leaving these managerial and commercial firebrands to borrow as much as they feel necessary which is not a course calculated to appeal to Mrs Thatcher. In 1980 the public sector was ordered to trim its external financial requirements by £3bn. So far, £1bn has been shed.

Sir Peter's view raises the question of why it is necessary to have state industries at all if a hands-off policy is to be pursued? Does the public interest any longer require that the commanding heights have to be publicly owned? That is a question which Mrs Thatcher has not fully tackled in her first administration, only pursuing privatisation piecemeal where the condition of the industry and the market made it possible. There is more to be done to restructure Ministers and their departments of commercial and industrial decisions for which they are not fitted. Before the second privatisation crusade sets out from Whitehall the Prime Minister and her Cabinet should consider precisely what it is they

are fighting for, and how to get there.

PAUL LAYTON
70A Leopold Road, SW19

Rate reform a vital need

From Mr Geoffrey Rippon, Q.C., MP for Heckmond Wike (Conservative)

gives the impression that it will do so, it is liable to find itself accused of double standards - as President Carter found over his human rights policy.

But this is not an issue of great importance in European-American relations. The two questions that matter above all for transatlantic relations at the present time are the proposed deployment of intermediate range nuclear missiles in western Europe and the threat of growing trade protectionism. On both these subjects Mr Meese spoke with understanding. It was not to be expected that he would make any fresh commitment on trade at this moment, just before the Williamsburg summit meeting at the end of the month. But he gave every indication of being fully alive to the nature and extent of the danger.

On the missiles, he spoke with the constructive firmness that is required. It is in the western interest to secure a balance of strength at the lowest level of arms that can be negotiated. To sacrifice balance for the sake of an agreement with the Soviet Union would be folly. But if the United States is to command the confidence of European opinion it also needs to provide assurance that it will negotiate positively. In this respect, as in the broader theme of his speech, Mr Meese showed an understanding of European concerns.

Not everything that Mr Meese said last night will, or should, have commanded the assent of his audience. His advocacy of President Reagan's campaign to preserve democracy may have struck British ears as superficial in its appreciation of the subtlety of international affairs. A major power like the United States cannot conduct its foreign policy simply according to whether it approves of the internal political systems of other countries. If it

so easily arrested in their homes, in the small hours of the morning.

At the same time they were good enough historians to be well aware of the chances, and the risks, of failure. In April, 1980 Mr Kianuri was asked, by a *Times* correspondent, whether he was not worried by the example of what had happened to the Iraqi Communist Party, which had given the same kind of uncritical support to the Baath regime in Iraq that he was now giving to Ayatollah Khomeini and which had done the less become in its turn the victim of Baathist repression. "We are well aware", he replied, "that when we collaborate with bourgeois nationalists they do not share our ideas, and that they may one day cross over into the reactionary camp. But so long as they are confronting imperialism it is our duty to support them."

Which being translated is: "we will support even anti-communist regimes so long as their foreign policies happen to serve the interest of the Soviet Union, even though we know that by so doing we offer ourselves as defenceless victims for imprisonment, torture and execution." Such an extraordinary spirit of self-sacrifice would be admirable if it were not devoted to so unworthy a cause.

A. M. JOYCE, Headmaster, The Royal Grammar School, Lancaster, April 29.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rate reform a vital need

From Dr Alex Comfort

Sir, As an old CND member, and one of the Committee for 100, now in *partibus infidelium*, I find the uproar over the World Peace Council very familiar. Of course the two Powers which endanger Europe have their sights on CND - it threatens them because it represents the interests of an independent European opinion. The Russians attempt to take it over, the Americans and their pro-consuls attempt to smear it as communist. The unashamed expression of public protest frightens both of them out of their wits.

I believe this priority should be given to the following:

1. A transfer of the cost of teachers' salaries and an increased proportion of the police and fire services over to the Exchequer, accompanied by
2. A consequent 25 per cent de-rating of industry and commerce and the abolition of rates on manufacturing plant and machinery.
3. Domestic rate relief should be extended to small businesses.
4. Payment of rates by instalments should be allowed in all cases.

5. Rating of empty property, introduced in the boom conditions of the early 1970s, should be abolished.

6. Crown property and the property of stately undertakings, such as reservoirs, should be rated by the same procedure as other property.

7. Rebates should be allowed for domestic water consumers on the same basis as for domestic rates.

8. A revaluation of all property should be set in hand on the basis of capital values and revaluation should take place at least every five years.

Above all we must find a more satisfactory way of altering the financial assistance given by central to local government. The current Byzantine methods of calculating annual rate-support grants are creating confusion and uncertainty everywhere. Consideration should be given to financing local government on a basis similar to that of universities, who receive a five-year block grant.

Our universities are often referred to as models of independence and for this reason greatly envied by other countries. There is no reason why this should not be equally valid for our local councils.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY RIPPON,
House of Commons,
May 5.

Private schools plans

From the Headmaster of the Royal Grammar School, Lancaster

Sir, Mr Neil Kinnock (April 27) appears to be offering private schools the same future - voluntary maintained status within a comprehensive educational system - as was so widely rejected by the direct-grant schools during the last Labour Government. Has he any new inducements, apart from more direct attempts to prevent recharging, to encourage local authorities to take on the maintenance and resourcing of the schools, or governors to accept the restrictions of the maintained sector?

Since many of the schools will have boarding facilities it might be helpful to explore a category of voluntary school, neither aided nor controlled, with central rather than local authority maintenance, and with greater independence incorporated in the articles of government and guaranteed by legislation. Some existing voluntary schools might also choose to move to such a status. Yours faithfully,

A. M. JOYCE, Headmaster, The Royal Grammar School, Lancaster, April 29.

In police custody

From Mr Ole Hansen and Ms Geraldine Van Bueren

Sir, It is important to correct the error contained in your editorial, dated May 3. Applications by the police to extend an individual's detention without charge beyond 36 hours would be in closed, not in open courts.

Unnoticed, part IV of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill defines in clause 35(2) a magistrate's court as "a court consisting of two or more justices of the peace sitting otherwise than in open court".

Such a radical departure from modern English legal principles is far wider than is necessary for the protection of a suspect's reputation. All that is required is the imposition of reporting restrictions similar to those applying to committal proceedings and which can be lifted at the detainee's request.

Yours faithfully,
OLE HANSEN,
GERALDINE VAN BUREN,
The Legal Action Group,
28A Higginott Road, NW5,
May 4.

Cuckold in the nest

From His Honour Paul Layton

Sir, Other species of birds take stricter views of marital morality (letter, April 11) - or did 50 years ago.

May I remind you of a report from Our Own Correspondent in Turkey, which appeared in *The Times* of April 19, 1932? It was of a pair of storks who returned one day to the nest and were seen in "fierce altercations", as a result of which the commanding heights had to be publicly owned? That is a question which Mrs Thatcher has not fully tackled in her first administration, only pursuing privatisation piecemeal where the condition of the industry and the market made it possible.

They, having examined the nest, flew in circles above it, apparently in concourse. After half an hour the male and two others "returned to the nest and solemnly killed the female".

The male then took a chick from the nest and gently deposited it on the ground. It was a turkey chick. Investigation revealed that a small boy had substituted a turkey's egg for one of the stork's eggs in the nest.

Yours etc,
PAUL LAYTON,
70A Leopold Road, SW19

Uncompromising view of Prague talks

From Dr Alex Comfort

Sir, As an old CND member, and one of the Committee for 100, now in *partibus infidelium*, I find the uproar over the World Peace Council very familiar. Of course the two Powers which endanger Europe have their sights on CND - it threatens them because it represents the interests of an independent European opinion. The Russians attempt to take it over, the Americans and their pro-consuls attempt to smear it as communist. The unashamed expression of public protest frightens both of them out of their wits.

I believe this priority should be given to the following:

1. A transfer of the cost of teachers' salaries and an increased proportion of the police and fire services over to the Exchequer, accompanied by
2. A consequent 25 per cent de-rating of industry and commerce and the abolition of rates on manufacturing plant and machinery.
3. Domestic rate relief should be extended to small businesses.
4. Payment of rates by instalments should be allowed in all cases.

5. Rating of empty property, introduced in the boom conditions of the early 1970s, should be abolished.

6. Crown property and the property of stately undertakings, such as reservoirs, should be rated by the same procedure as other property.

7. Rebates should be allowed for domestic water consumers on the same basis as for domestic rates.

8. A revaluation of all property should be set in hand on the basis of capital values and revaluation should take place at least every five years.

Above all we must find a more satisfactory way of altering the financial assistance given by central to local government. The current Byzantine methods of calculating annual rate-support grants are creating confusion and uncertainty everywhere. Consideration should be given to financing local government on a basis similar to that of universities, who receive a five-year block grant.

Mr Heseltine, I suspect, would be unable to comprehend a genuinely popular movement even if he wished to do so. Nobody can "lead" or divert this one - if anyone tries to do so, it is to mislead us for supporters. I can still recall the scenes when we marched to the Soviet Embassy.

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THE ARTS

Television
Parody
clichés

Cinema

Perilous greed in
British euphoria

Educating Rita (15)

Classic Haymarket;
Warner West End

Eureka (18)

Screen on the Hill

Alter-Image (Channel 4) is, on the model of Off-Broadway, off-television: odd little items which you have to make an effort to see, a combination of "access" television" and a polytechnic course. Last night's episode was a haphazard and somewhat desultory affair, in which the young presenters adopted a disdainful attitude to the medium they were using. For most of them, of course, "the box" has been just that - a piece of wooden family furniture which, because once they worshipped it, they now profess to despise: they like to kick it as hard as possible but they also want to stand upon it, or reasons of self-advertisement.

In the first sketch, four performers parodied the usual, gestural clichés of television presenters: they got them just about right, and were amazing as a result. The generation who were nourished on the pap of television have, of course, assimilated visual techniques in an instinctive or unconscious fashion, and it was perhaps significant, for those who are interested in recent social history, that all of the items in this short programme were devoted either to parodying television clichés or to concentrating upon those who manipulate the visual images of our culture.

There was a mercifully brief profile of a furniture designer, Tommy Roberts, who turns chairs and kitchen units into the stuff of dreams or nightmares, and a report by Andrew Logan on Zandra Rhodes's case of the colour-blind leading the colour blind.

The strength of the programme lies in its visual tricks, although sometimes they resemble a pogrom in Disneyland, but it is unclear what lies beneath them. The last item in the programme was called "Masai", with sounds by "Global Rain Music." I suspect that we were meant to identify the black dancers with African warriors but, in their orange and pink vestments, they looked more like refugees from Hot Gossip - O-level anthropologists doing a turn on Hamlet and Heath. There is a great deal to be said for an "alternative" image on British television, but it is important to make the alternative interesting.

Peter Ackroyd

vindictive when their magicians do not bring rain every time; we must not forget what happened, in turn, to Alexander Korda and Brian Forbes.

The new rain-makers will be Sir Richard Attenborough and David Puttnam, and from now on they will be expected to work the same magic every time. If they do not, then will be unforgiving. It is a stupid and unfair burden to put upon them: David Puttnam is a producer of flair and courage who has a dual ambition to make successful films and to make good films. It is in the nature of that ambition that he has had failures, will have failures and must have failures. The only way to avoid failure is to attempt nothing, to play safe; and playing safe has never made good cinema or good art of any other kind. We should not forget that the all-time box-office flops include *Intolerance*, *The Battleship Potemkin*, *Greed: A Woman of Paris*, *La Regle du jeu* and *Citizen Kane*.

Greed for success is indeed the most pernicious delirium that affects our industry and its advisers in these times of euphoria. The lessons of *Charlottes of Fire* and *Gandhi*, they say, is that what we should be making now are successful films like... like... *Charlottes of Fire* and *Gandhi*. Everyone spots winners when the race is over. This kind of advice leaves out of account the fact that the commercial potential of these two films was so far from apparent that it took Attenborough 20 years to find the money for *Gandhi*, while David Puttnam had to go abroad to find backing for *Charlottes of Fire*.

Another bad symptom of the success syndrome is the rejection of old friends. The National Film Finance Corporation - the one small token of official support for film production in this country - has lately come in for some knocking, for instance. It is singularly misguided. The NFPC's record of imaginative investment has never been better; but the knocking could create a climate to encourage the roles of wind-swept and rain-soaked. The worst of this is that the tribesmen turn so

ought to be looking for ways to increase it.

There has seemed, indeed, almost a conspiracy to underplay the NFPC's successes. Most reviewers of James Scott's *A Shocking Accident*, which won the Oscar for the best short film of the year, neglected to mention that it was an NFPC production. The favourite charges against the NFPC are that it finances films which are elitist and financially unprofitable. Neither charge seems appropriate to *Gregory's Girl*, which required subtlety to translate the English spoken in a South London community. *Babylon* is historically one of the corporation's most important films for the accuracy with which it defined a troubled area of contemporary British society. If the Home Secretary and his Chief Constables had seen it in May 1980, they would have been much better prepared and briefed for the riot riots of the summer that followed.

Unfortunately MPs - in this country at least - do not seem to go to the cinema. This is why the notion that films should receive official support, just like the opera, the theatre, the ball-bearing industry or the railways, never elicits a favourable official response. Official subvention to the French cinema now amounts to £55m and to the German cinema £23m. The British film industry benefits from £4m from the Eady levy. Even as a trade asset films are surely worth more than this. In

In

1981 they earned £31m overseas and for 1982 and 1983 the figures will be considerably better. The potential value of cinema as a cultural asset is more important, though, and incalculable.

Educating Rita is an efficient and good-hearted commercial film, with a script developed out of his own stage success by Willy Russell. It is essentially a variation of Shaw's *Pygmalion*.

Rita is the 1980s Eliza Doolittle, concerned to improve her elocution but her mind. Her Higgins is her Open University tutor, a boozey and disappointed poet and English lecturer.

Behind the laughs it is a good deal bleaker than Shaw. Rita wins through, but Willy Russell clearly remains pessimistic about the possibilities of social mobility, and only a working-class writer would have nerve enough to show the working class as so cruelly limited in education and ambition.

The scenes of Rita's home life are newly written for the screen. The play was a dialogue in the tutor's room; and these scenes remain the strongest in the script. They are expertly played by Michael Caine and Julie Walters, who looks like Lillian

Walters.

David Robinson

Concerts

Lindsay Quartet

Wigmore Hall

Beethoven's originality, his sense of purpose, his extremes of temperament, even a modest amount of charm, were among the qualities celebrated in the first concert on Wednesday of a Beethoven series by the Lindsay Quartet, Manchester University's "Quartet in Residence". The rest of the Beethoven cycle follows in five further programmes at the Wigmore Hall, on three Saturdays and two Wednesdays, this month and next.

Perhaps it was the scale of their intention that Peter Cropper, the first violinist, and his colleagues signalled by launching themselves into the midst of Beethoven's quartet writing with what the composer called his "Quartetto serioso", Op 95 in F minor. "To me, this piece epitomizes Beethoven,"

Mr Cropper wrote in a programme note, and demonstrated what he meant by leading a performance propelled by an equal mixture of rhythmic impetus, and vitality of spirit, serious in character certainly, but never solemn.

These players accord Beethoven thoughtful attention, as well as lively respect, treating the quartets not as museum music, for all their foundation strength, to the classical repertory, but as a very present experience for us to share. The way they made the finale of Op 95 kick up its heels in sheer exuberance, for instance, or allowed the faster F major interlude to disrupt the Adagio canthabile movement of Op 18 No 2, reflected a welcome freshness of thought.

The latter quartet was a notably well-chosen contrast to the first they played, reinforcing some consistent qualities of

LMP/Blech

Festival Hall

There is no reason on earth why one should not leave a concert of mainstream Haydn, Mozart and Schubert with nerves tingling, feeling as reinvigorated as if one had heard the most imaginative and challenging of new twentieth-century works. The only sign of any such stimulus in the torpid air of Wednesday night's concert was the sporadic tapping of finger and foot to the surdy and comforting beat which Harry Blech and the London Mozart Players doggedly uncovered through the often teasing rhythmic invention of the three composers.

The mellow and wisdom of age was there, and rightly so, in Haydn's *Symphony No 97*, with some warm, well-knit

string ensemble. But Haydn's eye still twinkled in his sixties, and the outer movements, particularly the finale, needed a lighter touch, a keener sense of the unpredictable to counter-balance the symmetry, than the rather bullish urgency the tempi were able to afford. The slow movement's variations, likewise, were cultivated enough, but charmless in the dampened inner life of their phrasing.

On to Mozart and his E flat

Sinfonia Concertante, K 364, in

which Norbert Brainin and

Peter Schidlof stepped out of

the Amadeus Quartet to be

the evening's violin and viola

soloists. They got on well

enough, as they should, but

frequently more in the spirit of

a duet rather than a duet, bows

flashing like rapiers in an

unusually pugnacious perform-

ance.

If there at first appeared to be

more crude than majesty in the opening, the second idea slowed down almost entirely as it to compensate, only to be assaulted by an exaggerated hawkish rising theme. And so it was all the way through the work: a ragged rhetoric on the part of the soloists, which at times verged on caricature, would pull against sluggish orchestral playing with the result that the work's just and finely judged proportions were all but distorted.

Feet were stuck even deeper in the mud in Schubert's Symphony No 3 after the interval. The general opaque-ness of texture was relieved only by some delightful oboe solos, while the second movement hobbled along where it should have skipped, lacking at times even the energy to raise its foot cleanly onto the first step.

As we first see them, opening family mail, leafing through *Picture Post*, they look entirely normal. Then various oddities

begin appearing: one of the boys collapses when his paper aeroplane comes to grief; another finishes a loving letter home by telling his mother to sod off. They go berserk in "Dawn Patrol" games, and ritualistically lower a towel for the Last Post. Then night falls and the hitherto immobile Skipper arises from his catatonic trance to lead them on a near-fatal Nuremberg raid.

Mr Durrant tells this story from the viewpoint of an outsider: a young soldier who had gone down with frostbite after falling asleep on guard duty, and whom, for reasons best known to himself, the hospital sister places in the RAF ward.

Naturally, the inmates close ranks against this intruder and do all they can to give him a hard time. As a result, whatever



Latter-day Eliza's first encounter with the professor: Michael Caine and Julie Walters in *Educating Rita*

by everyone else including the British Film Institute Production Board, would not have existed without the NFPC and Scottish Television.

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Investment and Finance
City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Times
 200 Gray's Inn Road
 London WC1X 8EZ
 Telephone 01-837 1234
STOCK EXCHANGES
FT Index 695.0 up 5.2
FT Gilt 81.98 down 0.02
FT All Shares 430.88 down 2.44
Bargains 24.240
String Hall USM Index 170.8 down 0.7
Tokyo: Closed
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 987.23 up 0.65
New York: Dow Jones Average latest 1215.27 up 2.62
CURRENCIES
LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5790 down 0.1 cent
 Index 84.9 down 0.2
 DM 3.85 down 0.02
 Ff 11.61 down 0.675
 Yen 37.1 down 2.50
Dollar
 Index 121.9 down 0.3
 DM 2.4410 down 50pts
Gold
 \$434.50 up \$2.25
NEW YORK LATEST
 Gold \$433.75
 Sterling \$1.5790
INTEREST RATES
Domestic rates
 Base rates 10
 3 month interbank 10 1/4-10
Euro-currency rates
 3 month dollar 8 1/4-8 1/2
 3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
 3 month 15 1/4-14 1/2
ECB Fixed Rates Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme
 Average reference rate for
 interest period April 6 to May 3,
 1983 inclusive: 10.304 per cent.
PRICE CHANGES
 News Int. 223p up 7p
 Global M. R. 24.75 up 75p
 Gartner Booth 90p up 11p
 T. Tilling 214p up 24p
 Bowater 187p up 17p
 H. Ingram 35p up 3p
 Johnson Group 29p down 35p
 Leisure Ind. 350p down 18p
 Mercantile Hse. 800p down 15p
 Sime 573p down 15p
 Saatchi 476p down 15p
 Ryk Bk. Scotland 122p down 15p
TODAY
 Interim Anglo-African
 Finance, Transvaal Cons Land
 & Exploration
 British Ayrshire Metal Prods
 Copydex, Everset Hldgs, Flem-
 ing Far Eastern, Hallam Grp of
 Goldsmiths, Save & Prosper Linked
 Inv (2nd Int), Scottish Ontario
 Inv Co, Stewarts Enterprise,
 Tern-Consult, UEL
 Economic statistics, Unem-
 ployment (Apr-Prov), unfilled
 vacancies (Apr-Prov), Car &
 Commercial Vehicle Production
 (Mar-Final)
Back Thatcher, business urged
 Business should give firm
 backing for Mrs Thatcher in her
 policies, in the next general
 election, Mr Walter Goldsmith,
 director-general of the Institute
 of Directors, said yesterday. He
 was scathing of the alternatives
 offered by Labour and the
 SDP/Liberal Alliance.

 "Mrs Thatcher has broken
 the mould of British politics by
 having the courage and tenacity
 to face the economic crisis
 which politicians have shirked
 for decades – to face it and to
 beat it."

 At one time it was thought
 that businessmen would flock to
 the banner of the SDP/Liberal
 Alliance. Today it is clear that
 has not happened," he told the
 institute's Eastern branch at
 Peterborough.

 AGENCY OFFER: The
 tender offer for sale of shares in
 Boisse Massimi Politti, the
 advertising agency, was over-
 subscribed 2.1 times at the
 striking price of 31.5p a share,
 Morgan Gutfeld, merchant
 bankers, said yesterday.

 GRANT AID: Grants totaling
 £238,000, equally funded
 by the EEC Commission and
 the Department of Industry, are
 being made towards the cost of
 an initial feasibility study for
 the Disney-style theme
 park called Wonderworld which
 is planned for Corby, North
 amptonshire.

 TRADING CALL: Many of
 the world's economic problems
 would ease with just a small
 increase in trade, Sir Campbell
 Fraser, President of the CBI,
 said yesterday. "Free and fair
 trade" within and without
 trading organizations in Europe
 was the best bet, he said.

 BREW UP: Beer production
 in March was 3.1ha bulk
 barrels, a 1.7 per cent increase
 on the same month last year
 said the Brewers Society.

 SALES RISE: US car sales
 rose 14.3 per cent last month to
 763,188 units from 667,630 a
 year earlier.

**Wall St
 mixed as blue
 chips fall**

 New York (Reuters) – Stock
 prices turned mixed yesterday,
 with blue chip prices turning
 lower.

 The Dow Jones Industrial
 average fell 1.35 points at
 1211.30 after reaching 1217.49.

 Volume was about 12 million
 shares. The Dow Jones trans-
 portation index rose 4.68 points
 to 536.05. On Wednesday the
 index gained more than 15
 points.

 The broader market contin-
 ued to improve, however,
 with advancing issues outpacing
 losers by about nine to four.

 One component of the Dow
 is Eastman Kodak, which fell
 3/4 to 76 1/2. Kodak has been the
 volume leader since reporting
 disappointing first-quarter prof-
 its on Wednesday.

 Consolidated Edison was the
 second most active, unchanged
 at 2 1/2.

 Mr Ralph Acampora, of
 Kidder Peabody said: "We're
 going to have a correction one
 of these days, but I don't think
 we are going to get it here."

**Linfood bid
 verdict
 next week**

By Our Financial Staff

 The verdict on Linfood
 Holdings takeover bid for food
 group, Fitch Lovell, is expected
 from the Monopolies and
 Mergers commission next
 Thursday.

 Lord Cockfield, the Trade
 Secretary, will announce
 whether the bid should be
 allowed to proceed and whether
 Fitch Lovell should be allowed
 to go ahead with its contro-
 versial £35m sale of its Key
 Markets supermarket chain to
 Linfood.

 The early indications are that
 Lord Cockfield will decide that
 the Linfood bid for Fitch is not
 against the public interest.
 However, the decision on the
 sale of the 106 Key Markets
 stores to Safeway is the more
 important of the two.

 If Mr Geoffrey Hanks, chief
 executive of Fitch, is allowed
 to conclude the Key Markets deal
 Linfood is unlikely to pursue its
 takeover ambitions for what
 would fundamentally be a food
 manufacturing, rather than a
 food retailing group.

 When Mr Alec Monk, chairman
 of Linfood, launched his
 £37m takeover bid for Fitch last
 September, a key element in the
 proposed deal was the proposed
 merger of the Key Markets
 supermarket chain with Linfood's
 Gateway stores chain.

 But Mr Hanks, since taking
 over as chief executive of Fitch
 Lovell last October, has frustrated
 Linfood's takeover ambitions
 by agreeing the sale of
 Key Markets, a chain of 104
 West German butcher shops in
 the West Country, and the Fitch
 grocery business for more than
 £40m.

 In future Fitch will concentrate
 on food manufacture, specialist
 foods and frozen food
 distribution.

 The deals all depend on
 winning Department of Trade
 approval and also on an
 extraordinary meeting of Fitch
 Lovell shareholders to be held
 on May 20.

Freeze on Hunt firms

By Our Financial Staff

 Wide-ranging court orders,
 freezing funds, properties and
 securing bank accounts of
 20 companies formerly con-
 trolled by missing financier
 Keith Hunt, were made by a
 judge yesterday.

 Mr Justice Harman, in the
 High Court in London also
 granted applications by the
 Official Receiver as provisional
 liquidator of five other Hunt
 companies, including Exchange
 Securities, and Commodities, after
 the Secretary of State for Trade
 presented petitions to wind
 them up "in the public
 interest" orders against all 20
 companies.

 The orders made yesterday,
 at the first hearing to be held
 in open court, were similar to
 orders granted last week in
 private.

 The "search and seize" orders
 permit solicitors instructed by
 the Official Receiver to enter
 any premises of the companies

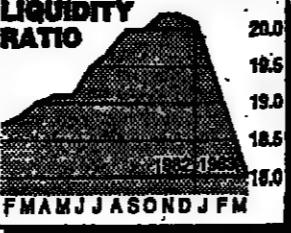
Richardson sceptical on ambitions for banking and insurance
Bank governor raises doubts over building society expansion plan

By Lorna Bourke

 The building societies' expa-
 nsionary ambitions received a
 sharp setback yesterday when
 Lord Richardson, the Governor
 of the Bank of England, raised
 doubts about the wisdom of
 allowing them to compete directly
 with banks and insurance
 companies.

 In its recent report on the
 future constitution of building
 societies, the Building Societies
 Association called for a wide
 range of new powers – most
 notably the freedom to set up or
 acquire banks, insurance and
 finance companies.

 While accepting the need for
 some of the reforms, Lord
 Richardson was sceptical about
 the more radical proposals.

 "Acquisition of such subsi-
 diares would carry wider impli-
 cations which are perhaps not
 fully set out in the report. The
 important point is that the Bank
 of England would require the
 parent, in the interests of the
 subsidiary's depositors, to sup-
 port the subsidiary in case of

 need, more fully than is
 required by the law of limited
 liability.

 "No parent which itself took
 deposits and depended upon a
 creditworthy name could expect
 to walk away from a subsidiary
 in trouble without risking a loss
 of confidence on the part of its
 own depositors", he said.

 "There must clearly be limits
 to what any of you can do,
 especially in the diversification
 of your assets, while continuing

 to call yourselves building
 societies and to retain the public
 goodwill they enjoy from the investing
 public, and that many sympathetic eyes
 both within the building society
 movement and outside.

 "The first question is how to
 make sure that the pace and
 direction of change does not
 undermine the very special
 confidence that the general
 public places in you. The
 particular difficulty is that a
 rapid and wide-ranging diversification
 by only a few societies could affect the
 whole movement", he said.

 Lord Richardson's comments
 come after a warning this week
 from Mr Alan Cumming, chairman
 of the Building Societies Association,
 that home loan rates may have to
 rise soon, if bank base rates do

 come down. And the latest edition of the
 BSA bulletin reveals how hard
 pressed the societies are, with
 liquidity falling from its December
 high of 20.1 per cent to 18
 per cent by the end of March.

 His message to the societies
 is that they should be wary of
City Comment
**Harrods:
 war or peace?**

 If Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland,
 a chief executive of Louroho,
 is not bored with the continuing battle
 between his company and
 House of Fraser, then he
 must be the only party in
 the country who is not. But
 yet again, later today, a
 score of institutions will
 trek to Glasgow to cast
 their votes.

 For this morning, share-
 holders in House of Fraser
 have to decide whether or
 not to support Louroho's
 plan that Harrods be
 floated off as a separate
 company.

 This saga would never
 have happened had the
 Monopolies Commission
 not blocked Louroho when
 it tried to bid for the whole
 House of Fraser group,
 thus leaving it locked in
 with a near 30 per cent
 stake which it could neither
 increase, nor, House of
 Fraser being the dismal
 performer it is, sell at a
 profit. The whole demerger
 plan, whatever its merits –
 and they are considerable –
 came up only because it
 offered a way for Louroho to
 get out of its corner.

 Shareholders in the
 previous rounds have sup-
 ported the House of Fraser
 board, but even the most
 loyal of them have to admit
 that their loyalty has been
 rewarded with neither
 sparkling profits nor
 sparkling share price.

 Today, they ought to
 question seriously whether
 this loyalty is in their own
 best interests, for to vote
 down the demerger is to
 vote for a continuation of
 the war; and that in turn
 makes it more likely that
 the lack-lustre performance
 will continue. So whether they like it or not,
 the institutional share-
 holders are as locked in as
 Louroho. The way they vote
 today ought to reflect this
 reality even if they do not
 like it.

**Jobs threat blocks
 bid for Johnson**

By Our Financial Staff

 The Monopolies and Mergers
 Commission has again saved
 Johnson Group Cleaners from
 takeover by banning two possi-
 ble bids from Sunlight Service
 Group and Initial.

 The commission made its
 unanimous decision mainly on
 the grounds of competition but
 also took into account the likely
 loss of between 200 and 400

 jobs. The commission's wor-
 ries are particularly sensitive because
 they would be concentrated in the
 hard-pressed Merseyside area.

 The commission's worries
 are on the wear-and-tear sides of the laundry
 business rather than the dry
 cleaning side.

 It says mergers would result
 in the loss of a potentially
 strong competitor. Yesterday,
 Mr John Crockett, Johnson's
 chairman, said the defence
 against the bids had cost almost

 £300,000 to the end of December
 with the final figure likely to
 be higher. Next week, he will go to
 the United States to explore
 possible acquisitions which had
 to be put off ten months ago.

 Johnson's share price fell 30p
 to 303p on the news.

Woolworth names second top man

 By Derek Harris
 Commercial Editor

 The other half of a key two-
 man executive team whose job
 will be to turn round the
 Woolworth stores chain was
 announced yesterday – Mr Colin

 Brown, a 40-year-old Scot who
 is deputy managing director of
 Makro Cash and Carry, the United
 Kingdom subsidiary of one of the world's largest
 wholesalers.

 Various options are being
 considered for restructuring the
 Woolworth stores operation. A final decision on the precise role
 of the two new directors will

 depend on these considerations
 and discussions with them, said
 Mr Beckett.

 But there is increasing specu-
 lation that Mr Brown will run
 the bigger stores, around 100;
 while Mr Harker takes on some
 550 medium-size and smaller
 ones. The B & Q DIY chain will
 remain a separate entity.

 Salaries of around £70,000
 each are believed to be involved
 in the new appointments but
 performance-related bonuses
 could take this well over
 £100,000.

Murdoch bids for profit

By Michael Prest

 News Corporation, Mr Rupert Murdoch's Australian
 master company, has bid for all
 the shares in News International,
 the British subsidiary of all of whose ordinary shares it
 already owns, by offering 225p
 for each of the outstanding

 shares. The offer was made yesterday
 after purchases worth £6m in
 the market had taken. News
 Corporation's holding of the
 special dividend shares from 50
 per cent to 77 per cent.

 News International publishes
The Times, *The Sunday Times*,
The Sun and the *News of the
 World*. A move to take over the
 remaining special dividend

 shares had been widely expected
 since this class of share was
 created during a capital reorga-
 nization in 1980.

 But as the market realized
 that a full bid for the shares was
 under way the price rose from
 176p to

Fears for the future of Western banking 'based on a misunderstanding'

Time to put the Third World debt threat into perspective

Much of the talk of a Third World debt crisis threatening the Western banking system is exaggerated.

It stems from a misunderstanding in both North and South of the consequences of a return to private commercial lending as the main form of capital flow from rich to poor countries.

The expansion of commercial bank lending to the South, from modest beginnings in the mid to late 1960s, has become the main source of external capital for development in the 1970s.

This marks a reversion to the typical 19th and early 20th century source of foreign capital for development — portfolio lending from rich to poor countries. This commercial market had been closed to Third World countries since their widespread defaults in the 1930s.

These defaults were the result not of the cause of the Great Depression. But the trauma of these defaults coloured post-war views about the desirability of private flows of capital between countries. The Bretton Woods system was regarded by the then US Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau as the achievement of his lifelong ambition to 'drive... the usurious moneylenders from the temple of international finance'.

American banking regulations and the widespread use of exchange controls in Europe — in the UK until 1979 — limited the access of Third World countries to Western capital markets. Foreign aid was invented to provide an alternative form of capital transfer, and until the 1970s, along with direct foreign investment, provided the major source of foreign capital for development.

Long-term debt of non-oil developing countries

	1973	1982
Total external debt	\$97bn	\$605bn
As percentage of output	20	30

As percentage of exports

	1973	1982
Foreign debt as percentage of exports in 1973	80	110
Canada	880	830
South Africa	830	520
Latin America	480	480
Australasia	480	480
Russia	480	480
India	240	240
Japan	230	230
China	220	220

Sources: IMF and W. A. Lewis: Growth and Fluctuations 1870-1973

Paradoxically, the American banking regulations gave rise to the unregulated, offshore Euro-currency markets in the 1960s. Most of the bank loans to the Third World have been channelled through these markets, based in the 1970s on the massive increase in the Euro-currency deposits of the surplus OPEC countries.

This reopening of the portfolio market — albeit with shorter maturities than was common in the 19th and early 20th century, and with a larger proportion of sovereign (publicly guaranteed) borrowing — has been advantageous for the Third World.

Unlike foreign aid or direct investment, commercial bank borrowing does not require an intimate relationship between borrower and lender, with all the accompanying misunderstandings and the politicization of economics.

But it is precisely for this reason that dirigistes have always cast a jaundiced eye on all 'unregulated' private flows of capital.

Two fears are widespread about this Eurolending. First, that the current level of Third World debt is too high. Secondly, that as a result borrowers may not be able or willing to continue to meet their debt-service obligations, and might decide to repudiate their debts, leading to a collapse of the Western banking system.

It would be foolish to argue that international capital markets are perfect or that all commercial lending has been wise. But these fears are exaggerated.

The fears have been fuelled by various statistical ratios

Statistics for 5 major borrowers in private capital market

Country	Output growth 1970-80	Export growth 1970-80	Medium term debt service ratio 1981 (a)		Percent bank debt short-term, 1981	Cash-flow ratio 1982 (b)
			(%)	(%)		
Mexico	5.2	13.4	60	42	129	
Brazil	8.4	7.5	58	27	122	
Venezuela	5.0	-6.7	37	55	95	
Thailand	7.2	11.8	17	55	48	
Korea	9.5	23.0	18	53	53	
Philippines	6.3	7.0	24	53	81	

Source: World Development Report 1982, World Bank and Overseas Development Institute.

Note: (a) Interest and principal on medium-term debt in relation to exports of goods and services.

(b) Interest and principal on all debt in relation to exports of goods and services.

between the size of the external debt or the costs of its service to the export earnings or gross domestic product, of particular countries, or of the group of non-oil developing countries.

But most of these ratios are meaningless. For as long as a borrower can utilize a foreign loan productively to yield a rate of return at least equal to the real interest cost of the borrowing, and can convert the equivalent domestic resources into foreign exchange, the foreign borrowing can pose no problem. Until the past two years of high interest rates, these real interest costs of borrowing were extremely low, and negative in some years.

Secondly, even if the ratios of foreign debt, or debt service charges to exports are taken at their face value, by historical standards they are by no means excessive. The ratio of long term debt to exports of non-oil developing countries of 1.1 in 1982 is well below the lowest ratios of 2.2 for China and Japan in 1913 and a fraction of those for Canada and South Africa. There was little talk of a debt crisis then.

The doubling in real terms of the long term debt of the Third World over the past 10 years merely reflects a readjustment in the borrowing countries to the opportunities presented by the rebirth of the international capital market.

There may be more reason to worry about the inability of Third World countries to increase their export earnings because of the rising tide of protectionism in the West, but it should be noted that, in the 1970s, the major borrowers had no difficulty in increasing their export earnings or putting the borrowings to productive use, as judged by the growth rates of income.

In the past, the domestic policies of many Third World countries have hindered an expansion of their export earnings and these have not yet been reformed. But, nevertheless, resisting protectionist pressures in the West is the best means available to help debt servicing.

So far, however, we have been concerned with the long and medium term debt of the Third World. In recent years, some countries — mainly in Latin America — have obtained substantial short term credits from commercial banks.

These are analogous to the overdraft limits which banks offer to their domestic customers. Just as a domestic client would only expect to pay the interest on his overdraft out of current income, repayments of principal on these short term debts are not usually considered to be part of the annual debt service.

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The fears have been fuelled by various statistical ratios

more a signal of the unsoundness of these countries' past borrowings or their future ability to service them than would be the arbitrary withdrawal of an overdraft facility for an otherwise sound commercial business.

If the commercial banks' withdrawal of credit to some of their major borrowers is a belated recognition of the imprudence of some of their past lending, it might require the acceptance of capital losses associated with bad debts which are part of the normal risks of banking, but it would still not justify forcing their debtors into illiquidity.

If, however, it was believed that the consequent threat of default, associated bank failures and their impact on the international banking system would be seen as unacceptable, and would force Western governments to organize a 'bail-out' of the commercial banks, their actions during the last few years can be viewed as being rational.

For the commercial debt accumulated by the Third World in the 1970s represents loans made by Opec via the Western commercial banking system. Many are playing on the historical memories of the bank failures during the 1930s. These bank failures, however, were not the cause of the Great Depression — it was the failure

of the short run liquidity crisis precipitated by the commercial banks in itself no

more a signal of the unsoundness of these countries' past borrowings or their future ability to service them than would be the arbitrary withdrawal of an overdraft facility for an otherwise sound commercial business.

With most depositors in Western countries implicitly or explicitly insured, and assuming their governments do not allow their domestic money supply to shrink, failures of imprudent banks need not have any of the other dire consequences currently being predicted.

The real cost of Euromarket credit to developing countries

Source: Overseas Development Institute estimates.

Year %

1976 2.3

1977 0.6

1978 -1.3

1979 0.1

1980 1.8

1981-82 8.0

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Tuesday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Wednesday
Wednesday	Heathrow - Anchorage - Tokyo - Osaka	Thursday
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*Convenient connecting available between Tokyo and Osaka

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The author is a reader at the London School of Economics.

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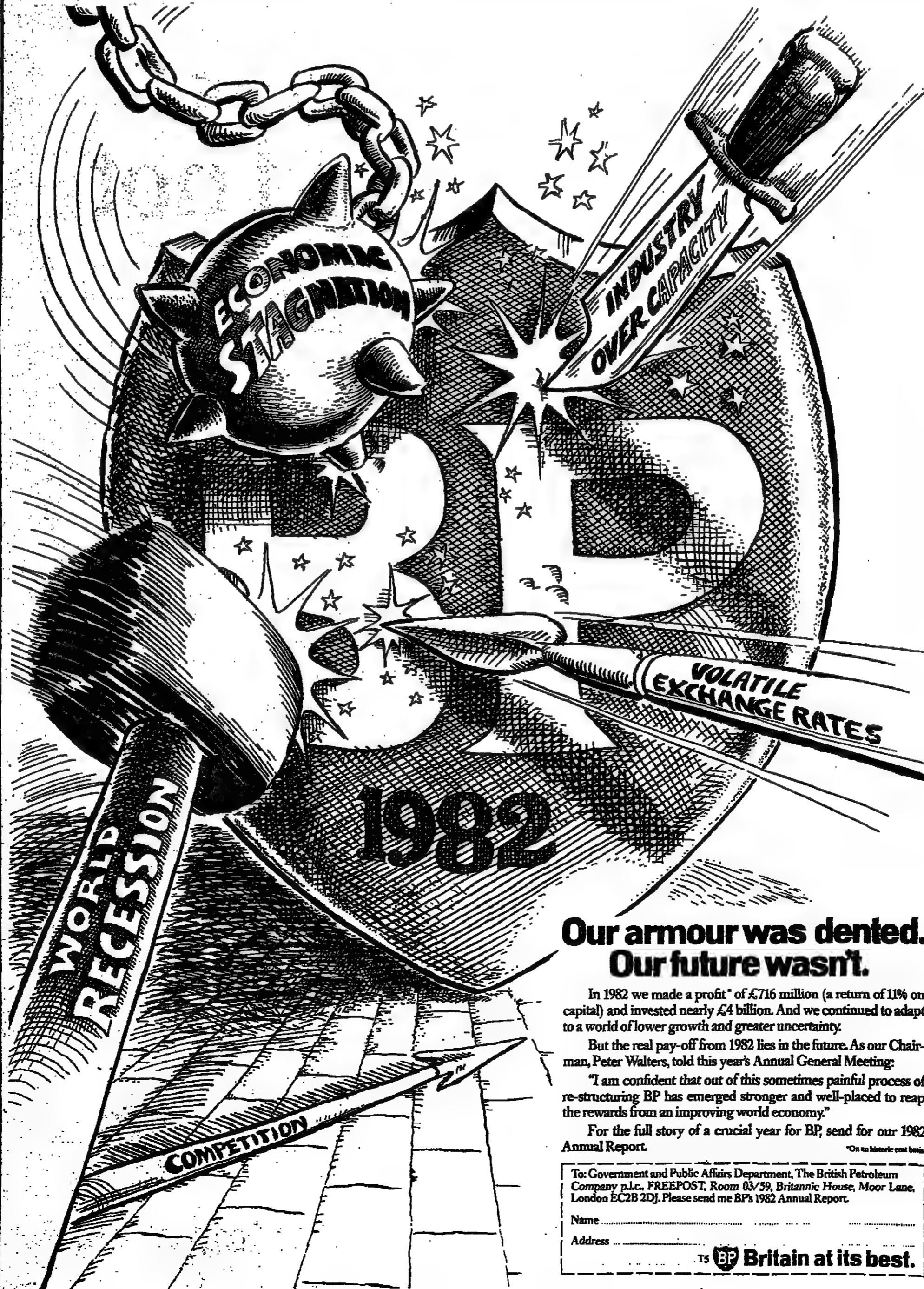
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FOOTBALL

Television say their offer is withdrawn

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The BBC and ITV yesterday withdrew their offer of £5.4m to cover football on television next season. The decision came immediately after the League club chairmen, meeting at the Cafe Royal, London, had rejected their latest proposal but voted unanimously for the management committee to renegotiate a new deal.

John Bromley, the head of sport at London Weekend, said: "I don't think we will get a deal. We are bitterly disappointed. This is the second kick in the teeth we have had from football. We have spent seven months with people who cannot deliver and I don't want to spend another seven." Jonathan Martin, his counterpart at the BBC, said: "As of now, the money is withdrawn and so is our agreement on shirt sponsorship. We start with a clean sheet."

After seven months of little more than tactical talk, it is as though the two sides are still encamped in their own penalty areas. The gap between them remains significantly wide and, as they enter extra-time, the need for them to meet in a centre circle of agreement is becoming increasingly concerning and urgent.

Benfica on the brink of triumph

By Nicholas Harting

Benfica go into the second leg of the UEFA cup final in Lisbon on May 18 only a goal down to Anderlecht and with every chance of taking the trophy for the first time.

The Belgian club, who won the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1976 and 1978, failed to capitalise on the numerous chances they created in their 1-0 first-leg win in Brussels on Wednesday and may struggle to hold on to their slender advantage in the return.

They enjoyed a one-man advantage for the last 15 minutes after Benfica midfield player Jose Luis Silva was sent off but rarely showed the goal-scoring form which has taken them to the top of the Belgian first division.

The only goal, which ended Benfica's unbeaten UEFA cup run, came in the 30th minute after Anderlecht's Franky Vercauteren.

The Belgian club had initially curled into a corner, which the Danish forward, Kenneth Bryle, converted with a header.

The football deteriorated after the interval, with neither side finding any rhythm or fluency.

Luis Silva was sent off after he hacked down the energetic Bryle while the ball was out of play and Benfica's Peter and Anderson's Willy were both booked.

ANDERLECHT: Miroslav Hellek, Peterovic, Olsen, Diogo, Freire, Lemos, Cook, Vercauteren, Vandenberg (sub), Cuyvers.

BENFICA: Henrique, Pedro, Henrique Coelho, Alvaro, Frederico, Luis Lopez, Pinto (sub), Neto.

United's disposition still unsettled

By Nicholas Harting

There was more anger in Manchester yesterday than at Chelsea when they were beaten. Steve Kinsey, has a hamstring injury that may rule him out of tomorrow's crucial visit to Brighton.

Ken Bryle, Liverpool's

Scottish international, has become

the only fourth player to be twice

voted Footballer of the Year by the

Football Writers Association.

Robinson, of Manchester United, was runner-up and two other Liverpool

players, Souness and Rush, were

third and fourth respectively.

Coppell: recovering

Pele: the master

Pele has been invited to help develop football in Sri Lanka, The Star newspaper has reported in Colombia.

Enfield sticking their necks out

By Paul Newman

Enfield, who have only to draw at Runcorn tomorrow to make certain of the Alliance Premier League championship, will play the match in the attacking style that has brought them 93 league goals this season.

Eddie McCluskey, the Enfield manager, said yesterday: "We expect that we're not the best defensive team in the league, even at the best of times. We shall go to Runcorn and attack, because that's what we're best at. I think everyone acknowledges that we're the best attacking side in the league."

Enfield United, who have fought a neck-and-neck race with Enfield all season, also play their championship if they win by three goals and if Enfield, who are undefeated in the league, even at the best of times, go to Runcorn and attack, because that's what we're best at. I think everyone acknowledges that we're the best attacking side in the league."

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Britain's unpaid pugilism is as archaic as Corinth

By Alan Hubbard

And then there were two. Since the middle of October, when he returned from Brisbane with the most successful English amateur boxers in history, the national coach, Kevin Hickey, has watched the Commonwealth Games team disintegrate. Tonight, of the nine who won medals, only the smallest, light-flyweight John Lyon, and the biggest, heavyweight Harold Hyton, are left to contest the ABA championships at Wembley Arena.

The despondent Hickey, with just over a year to re-assemble a fighting unit for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, describes the situation as tragic, the worst he has experienced in his 11 years in the post.

Inevitably four members of the Brisbane team have turned professional, including the gold medal winners Chris Pyatt and Jimmy Price. Two have moved on to another, the super-middleweight, Nick Crookes, a survivor, is in Northern Ireland, and unavailable.

White Hickey is resigned to the traditional difficulty of stemming the drain of talent into the professional ranks, he is concerned that amateur boxing's anachronistic attitudes may have helped denude any Olympic prospects.

"You can't blame any of the lads who have turned pro. We're in a recession and some were out of work. Had we moved towards some system of broken time payments, as they have in the United States, it might have made a difference. Additionally, the same recession has forced the ABA to cut expenditure on its international programme and squad training sessions, which makes things less attractive for the boys."

While there is hardly a more professional pursuit than boxing as witnessed on the Bruno bill at Wembley on Tuesday, amateur night at the same venue will be exactly that. Unless many other sports which accept financial compromises, the vested version of the noble art remains about as close to



Lyon: the fly still rears.

Corinth as one can get in these commercial days.

The ABA seem stubborn and short-sighted both in respect of attitudes towards amateurism and their refusal, for the fourth year, to accept a team for the European championships, which clash with tonight's George Wimpey-sponsored finals. Doubtless a trinket or two will be expected in Los Angeles but it is hard to see how they can be obtained without the necessary international experience.

There can hardly be a more frustrating job in sport than Hickey's. For instance, having seen his all-metal Commonwealth team decimated, he is excited by another young prospect, 18-year-old light-middleweight, Rodger Douglas, of St. George's ABC, London who, he says, "has

come from nowhere." Mickey says Douglas can "hit, box, and take a shot. He's got the lot."

The youth is, less altruistic eyes will also be sizing him up, and Hickey must hope that the potential star of tonight's show is willing to be hothoused for the Olympics and not tempted as was Britain's most brilliant teenage amateur, Errol Christie, into the pro ring.

The Brisbane stalwarts, Lyon and Hyton, should both retain their ABA titles. It will be Lyon's fourth in succession, and Hyton again faces the man he knocked out in half a round last year, Horace Notice.

In the super-heavyweight division the huge British Transport policeman, Guy Williamson, is expected to dethrone the current champion Keith Ferdinand, of the Royal Navy, and Liverpool's Kenny Willis, a carbon copy of his professional brother, Tony, should win the lightweight title.

If Hickey can recruit the nucleus of a reasonable Olympic team after tonight he must hope that the Games themselves will be sufficient incentive to keep them together. But whether there will be the odd chord in Los Angeles reminiscent of Brisbane's triumphant anthem seems unlikely.

American lined up for Gumbo

Ray Gumbo, the British and Commonwealth super-middleweight champion, warms up for the forthcoming defence of his British title with a 10 rounds contest against Jerry Holly, of Orlando, Florida, who has won 14 of his 23 bouts at The Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, London on May 18.

The promoter Frank Warren had wanted to stage Gumbo's title defence against Mark Taylor this month after winning the right with a £20,500 purse offer but he has been put back to September as he is excited by another young prospect, 18-year-old light-middleweight, Rodger Douglas, of St. George's ABC, London who, he says, "has

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davall

BBC 1

6.00 **Concorde AM:** You do not need a special TV set to receive this daily service of information about traffic conditions, the weather, sport and about the news generally.

6.30 **Breakfast Time:** Presented by Seana Scott and Nick Ross. Includes the news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Sport at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Morning papers at 7.30 and 8.30; *Today's* TV at 7.15; *Food and Cooking* (6.45-7.00); *Food and Cooking* (7.30-7.45); *Food and Cooking* (8.45-9.00); *Closetown* at 9.00.

9.25 **For Schools, Colleges:** Student time: 9.32 School education; 10.15 Vitamin C; 10.40 Hot Chocolate; 11.00 Capricorn; *Capricorn*; 11.45 *Horizon*; 11.45 Life and medical skills; 12.03 Let's Go; 12.15 *Closetown*.

12.30 **News After Noon:** 12.57 *Financial Report*. And subtitled news.

1.00 **Pebble Mill at One:** The result of the national fashion awards competition are announced, and Mary Quant presents the prizes to the winners in the three categories - student, amateur and junior design; 1.45 *Postman Pat* (r).

2.02 **For Schools, Colleges:** *Man Alive* film about road accidents (7.5); 2.35 A film about *Shame*; 2.55 *Hideaway*: A Run for Your Money; *Juggernaut* (try drive from *Flexowax* to *Theta*, with Bob McGaugh) at the wheel.

3.55 **Play School** (see BBC 2, 11.00am); 4.20 *The New Schmooz*: cartoons (7.45); 4.40 *Playhouse*: the Russian tale of *Ivan the Ninny*, starring Michael Thomas (r); 5.10 *Breakthrough*: How Howard Florey and his group of Oxford scientists turned penicillin into a safe, reliable medicine. The story is told by John Craven; 5.35 *Robert*.

5.40 **News:** 6.00 South East at 8.22 Nationwide, including sportsworld at 6.22.

7.00 **The Good Life:** A girl student, who helps the Goodes with the digging, shows an interest in Tom (Richard Briers) that is more than agricultural or philosophical in nature. *Tom* Richard plays the student.

7.30 **Odd One Out:** A competition based on the contestants discovering which word, picture or music clue is the odd one out. *Oddly* chaired by Paul Daniels.

8.00 **The Time of Your Life:** Henry Cooper recalls the night that was the climax of his boxing career - when he floored Cassius Clay with a left hook. The night was June 18, 1963. Other taking part are Gerry and the Pacemakers, Christine Keeler, and the vicar who banned jeans from the church youth club.

8.30 **Are You Being Served?** The golf professional Mr. Walpole (Jess Conrad) is temporarily moved from the sports section of the store to the ladies' and gentlemen's department and he brings his sporting enthusiasm with him.

8.00 **News:** *Michael Buerk*.

8.25 **Cagney and Lacey:** New York police drama. *Night*, Chris (Sharon Glass) tries to discover the identity of a murdered down-and-out.

10.15 **The Tales of Scilly:** They have been called The Fortunate Islands, and Andrew Cooper finds out why; 10.45 *News* headlines.

10.45 **Amateur Boxing:** Harry Carpenter, at Wembly Arena, introduces the action in the George Whipple Boxing Association Championships; 12.25 *Weather* prospects.

TV-am

6.00 **Daybreak** (Introduced by Glyn Scott), followed at 6.30 by *Good Morning Britain* (Introduced by Lynne Reilly and Nick Owen); News at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 and 9.45; Sport at 6.45, and 7.30; *Local Edition*; 7.55 guest celebrity at 8.20; *Moneybox* at 8.25; *Cookery* spot with Michael Barry at 8.30; *Closetown* at 8.35; *Closetown* at 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 **For Schools:** *Port Industries of Britain*; 9.55 *Shals and Scorpions*; 10.15 *Homelands and families*; 10.35 *Everyday French*; 10.55 *Sexual characteristics*; 11.15 *Farming*; 11.30 *Bicycles*; 11.44 *Hearts and hearing-impaired children*.

12.00 **Topper's Tales** with the late Julian Orchard (r); 12.10 *Right Rover*; 12.30 *Hearts on Writing*; 12.45 *Horizon* interviews the novelist and playwright Susan Hill.

1.00 **News from ITN:** 1.20 *Thames areas news*; 1.30 *About Britain*: *Laurens*: A visit to the delightful Suffolk village with the famous half-timbered buildings and interesting history.

2.00 **A Plus:** The Chinese pianist Fou Toong talks about his recent visit to his mother country.

2.30 **Films Young Wives' Tale** (1951) The post-war housing shortage forces two young couples to share accommodation in this light-weight comedy. With Joan Greenwood, Ned Patrick, Derek Fane and Helen Cherry. In a career best, Audrey Hepburn.

4.00 **Children's ITV:** *Rainbow* (7.45); 4.20 *Porky Pig*; 4.45 *Animals in Action*; Birds that cannot fly. With Keith Sheldrick; 4.55 *Freestyles*: We learn about the younger viewer, with live appearances by Spandau Ballet, UB 40 and Paul Haig. Co-presented by Yvonne French and Graham Fletcher-Cook.

7.00 **Channel Four News**.

7.30 **Death of an Expert Witness:** Episode 5 of this adaptation (by Robin Chapman) of the PD James detective yarn about muddy waters at a forensic laboratory. *Tonight*, *Daughters of the Earth* (TV), and *Death of an Expert Witness* (Anglia).

7.35 **Me and My Family:** *Me and Barbara Windsor* in a chock-a-block contest.

7.45 **News:** 8.00 *The 6 o'Clock Show* with Michael Aspel and Janet Street-Porter. A live lively and newsy show.

7.00 **Family Fortunes:** Quiz, with the Boxes from *Flexowax*, Northern, taking on the cheeses from *Durham*, *Wiltshire*. The MC is Bob Monkhouse.

7.30 **Hallelujah! The Salvation Army** comedy series, starring Thora Hird, continues with a story of a plan to halt dwindling congregations by forming a band. Co-starring Patsy Rowlands and Rosemary Greenwood.

8.00 **Hawthorn:** Death threats to singer. With Jack Lord as Steve McGarrett.

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8.30 **News from ITN:** 8.45 *The London Programme*: The struggle between Ken Livingstone, the GLC leader and Reg Freeson, over the Labour candidate in Brent East.

11.00 **Show Pool**: Further play in the John Bull Bitter London Pool Championships. *Maltese Joe*: Barbara, the favourite, plays Michael Vokes, a first-round winner.

12.15 **Clothes:** Siân Phillips reads a *Browning poem*.



Roy Marsden: Death of an Expert Witness (ITV, 9.00pm)

● **PERFECT SHADOWS** (BBC 2, 9.30pm), Derek Lister's play is about an American astronaut who, having once walked on the Moon and blotted out the Earth with one hand, now finds that he can hardly put one foot in front of the other on his home planet without tumbling into some sort of domestic or professional crisis. More to the point, Earth, in the shape of his masters at NASA, is now blotting him out. As I read it, Mr Lister's play is trying to say something much more profound about the human condition than that it's a tough world for earthbound spacemen who can't find anything Down Here to equal the marvels to be found Up There. Clearly, this is a world fit for heroes like Chuck Miller (tautly played tonight by Michael J. Shannon). But, by the

same token, heroes like Chuck Miller are unfit for a world that demands more from a man than the mere capacity for being permanently Moonstruck. Forty-five minutes is too short a time for a play convincingly to resolve the kind of complex issues that *Perfect Shadows* raises, but it is an important play that need to be seen on our screens for a very long time.

● **DEATH OF AN EXPERT WITNESS** (ITV, 9.00pm), the murder yarn which Robin Chapman has adapted from the P.D. James book, continues to tease intelligently after an initial tendency to let its passions get out of hand. It is now becoming

CHOICE

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● **Jack Emery's short story THE ANOREXIC CUCKOO** (Radio 3, 9.10pm), about a clock cuckoo whose failure to perform has a long-term impact on its frustrated owners, is both funny and cruel, as well as being ultimately pathetic. Timothy West reads the story, and he accommodates all three moods with consummate ease.

● **Other radio highlights:** The BBC Philharmonic concert (Radio 3, 7.10 and 8.10) with works by Prokofiev (Leutenant Kijé suite), Tchaikovsky (Scheherazade's Letter to Eugenia Onegin) and the Matera Symphony No. 4.

Radio 3

6.55 **Weather**
7.00 **News**
7.05 **Morning Concert** (f) *Wolf-Ferrari, Litz, Rossini, Divonis*; records

8.00 **Morning Concert (continued)** *Wise, Howells, Schubert*; records

9.00 **This Week's Composer** (f) *Brahms*; records. Includes the Variations on the St Anthony Chorale, and Serenade No. 2 in A (Mozart); *Violin Concerto No. 1* (Paganini); *Violin Concerto No. 2* (P. C. Bach); *Beethoven, Haydn*

10.00 **Music** (f) *Fortspiele* (Mozart); *Concerto* (C. P. E. Bach); *Beethoven, Haydn*

11.45 **Norfolk and Norwich Triennial Festival 1982** (f) *Choral Music*: Peter Aston, Tippett, Vaughan Williams, Mendelssohn, etc.

12.00 **Chamber Orchestra of Europe** (f) *Concert* (P. I. Mozart); *Stravinsky, Wagner*

1.00 **News**

1.15 **Local Contraband**

1.30 **Concert** (f) *Part 2: Beethoven*

2.00 **Baroque Music** (f) *Frescobaldi, Pergolesi, Bassani, Handel*

2.30 **Concert** (f) *Violin Concerto* (Elgar); *Choral Evensong* (f) *Elgar, Gerald*

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